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COMMENT OF THE DAY

DISTORTED PICTURE

THERE is a picture of the recent moves towards high-level negotiations between the Soviet Union and the Western Powers, which with the aid of a certain amount of propaganda, has found wide acceptance. Yet it does not correspond with reality.

It is a picture of the Soviet Government initiating and patiently advocating a new effort to lessen tension between the two groups, while Western statesmen, and Mr Dulles in particular, have barred the way by laying down unreasonable conditions for such an effort.

That is, in fact, not only a false picture; it is very nearly the precise opposite of the truth.

Serious Proposal

It was the Nato Powers which made the first serious proposal for a new effort to break the deadlock which has existed since last summer when the Soviet delegation bluntly put an end to the disarmament talks in London.

This step was followed by the equally blunt refusal to participate in the new disarmament commission set up by the United Nations Assembly.

It is true that Marshal Bulganin, in his letter of December 10 to President Eisenhower did refer, somewhat vaguely, to the possibility of a "personal meeting of heads of governments."

But in his letter, at the same time, to Mr Macmillan the Soviet Premier only spoke of "personal contacts between the Soviet Union and the Western Powers."

Passing Phrases

THESE were only passing phrases in long letters and there was nothing in the nature of a definite proposal for a new effort at negotiation.

It was the Nato Council in Paris which took the first real initiative. It declared at the time that if Russia continued to take part in the Disarmament Commission, the Nato governments would welcome a meeting at Foreign Ministers' level to break the deadlock.

That was the first specific proposal since 1955 for a high-level Soviet-Western conference and it was very practical as it suggested as the objective the breaking of the deadlock and the resumption of negotiations on probably the most important of all problems.

Concessions

MUCH has been made of the fact that the Soviet Government has now withdrawn its opposition to a meeting of Foreign Ministers (provided that it deals only with procedural questions) and this is represented as a considerable concession to the Western Powers.

But it was the Western Powers which had already made the concessions. Both the British and United States Governments had announced that, since there was Soviet objection, they were willing to drop the idea of a Foreign Ministers' meeting, and to use the "normal" diplomatic channels for the preparatory work.

These are the facts and they give a very different impression from that given by the distorted picture which has gained wide acceptance, not only in the Communist countries, but also in the Western world as well.

GLOOMY REPORT ON US ECONOMY

Output Index Slides Down To Three-year Low

By RAYMOND LAHR

Washington, Mar. 17. The Federal Reserve Board reported a continued "recession in economic activity" today with industrial production in February down to the lowest point in more than three years.

The Board's seasonally-adjusted index of output by factories and mines dropped three points in February to 130 per cent of the 1947-49 average. This was a decline of 16 points below February, 1957.

The last time the index skidded to as low as 130 was in December 1954. The all-time high was 147 in December 1955.

Cautioned

The new and gloomy report was published after Treasury Secretary Robert B. Anderson cautioned against "ill-considered" demands for a tax cut to fight the recession. He said the Administration intends to hold up a tax-cutting decision until "the impact of current developments... has been clarified."

The drop in the Federal Reserve Board index represented a production decrease of about 11 per cent from the high level of a year earlier.

500 WORKERS LAID OFF

Wilmington, Del., Mar. 17. The General Motors Corporation announced today that it will lay off 500 workers at its Buick-Goldmobile assembly factory here and cut production by half on Thursday.

A spokesman said the reduction was in line with the company's current schedule requirements. The factory has been working a two-shift, four-day week recently.—Reuter.

The Board said severe weather contributed to last month's reduction in industrial activity but did bring an increase in the output of electricity and gas. The sharpest drop for the year in the industrial production index was in the output of durable goods, 15 per cent, during the year.

Production of consumer durable goods was down 20 per cent to the lowest level since December, 1953.

Summary

The Board said automobile output dropped again in March while steel production remained near the low February rate.

In a terse summary of business conditions, the Board said: "Recession in economic activity continued in February. Industrial production, employment, income and retail sales again declined, and unemployment rose to a new postwar high. Construction activity was curtailed slightly. "In February and early March, prices of farm products and foods continued to rise, while prices of industrial commodities changed. Total bank loans and investments rose appreciably although loans to business continued to decline. Free reserves of member banks increased further. Short-term interest rates were generally lower, while long-term business rates rose somewhat."—United Press.

Duke Returns

London, Mar. 17. The Duke of Edinburgh landed in his Heaton aircraft at London airport tonight after his 10-day private visit to Germany.—Reuter.

ANOTHER HONOUR FOR FUCHS

London, Mar. 17. Dr Vivian Fuchs, of the successful trans-Antarctic expedition today was awarded the Royal Geographical Society's special gold medal. The medal was last awarded in 1920 to Robert Peary of the United States Navy—the first man to reach the North geographical pole.

Previous recipients of the medal were Captain Robert Scott in 1904 and Sir Ernest Shackleton in 1909. Sir Edmund Hillary, leader of the New Zealand contingent of the Commonwealth trans-Antarctic expedition and conqueror of Everest, received the Founder's medal, for which the Queen's approval is necessary—for Antarctic and Himalayan exploration.

Dr Paul A. Siple, chief of the US Army Arctic Research Section, was awarded the Society's Patron's Medal. Siple, whose Antarctic experiences began in 1928, was in charge of the first winter camp station at the South Pole last year. He and his party were the first men to spend the winter there.—United Press.

Ten Killed In Accident

Mexico City, Mar. 17. Ten persons were killed and 50 others were injured when a run-away bus rumbled into a wall in San Juan Del Rio in Mexico's Queretaron State, it was learned today.

The accident occurred yesterday when the gear box of the bus broke as the driver was trying to slow down on a steep, incline. Three persons were killed immediately and seven others died on the way to hospital.—France-Press.

US To Decide Whether To Press For Meeting Of Disarmament Commission

New York, Mar. 17.

The United States will decide within the next 36 hours whether to press for meetings of the United Nations Disarmament Commission and the Security Council in face of Soviet objections, authoritative sources said today.

The decision will come from the State Department either late today or tomorrow after officials have studied the weekend Soviet statements on the question, insisting that the disarmament issue should come up outside the world organization. Mr Arkady Sobolev, Soviet permanent representative, has said that his Government would boycott the 26-member commission and objected to having the Security Council meet on disarmament procedures.

Envisaged

The sources envisaged the following steps which the United States would consider "ideal" in dealing with the deadlocked disarmament problem:—

★ A meeting of the Commission to be called in accordance with the desire expressed by the General Assembly at its last session, in December.

This meeting would be held with the clear knowledge that the Soviet Union, Poland and Czechoslovakia would not attend.

The aim of the meeting would not be to air in substance the disarmament problem, nor to bring about any debate on the substance of the issue, but simply to satisfy the expressed wishes of the General Assembly that the Commission should meet and report before April 30.

Take Note

The meeting would take note of the absence of "several important members" and would agree to report back to the General Assembly and the Security Council, without making any recommendation.

★ Next, a meeting of the 11-member Council could be called at which the item on the agenda would not be a broad discussion of disarmament but be purely procedural. The Council would note that talks and negotiations might be expected on a different level outside the United Nations.

The Council could then express the hope that such meetings might prove fruitful.

Informed sources in the United Nations have stressed that this has been the position of the United States since February, and that it is not a position which has been suddenly improvised. They also have argued that it is a position which has been misunderstood, and even seriously distorted, by some people.

★ Blessings The United States is known to favour a United Nations "blessing" of any talks—either at the summit or Foreign Ministers' level.

One feature of the Soviet refusal to participate in the work of the Disarmament Commission has puzzled some Western observers.

They point out that the Russians have given as one of the reasons for their refusal the fact that 16 of the 25 members may be considered to be pro-Western.

The Soviet Union has said it will not sit on a body in which it is so outnumbered. Yet it has said it would agree to discuss disarmament in a committee of the whole Assembly—which last year endorsed the Western disarmament proposals by 57 votes to nine.—Reuter.

HELICOPTER-BORNE MARINES USN Moves Into Indonesian War Zone

By DONALD WISE

Singapore, Mar. 17. Assault carriers of the United States Seventh Fleet arrived with helicopter-borne Marines in Indonesian war zone off Singapore today.

UAR PARTISANS FIGHT NATIONALISTS

Beirut, Mar. 17. One person was killed and several injured in a fight between partisans of United Arab Republic President Gamal Abdel Nasser and Lebanese Nationalists in a Lebanese village last night, it was reported here today.

The fight occurred at the village of Shaura, on the Beirut-Damascus highway, when a group of buses and automobiles were returning from Damascus. The people in the buses and cars had gone to Damascus to participate in celebrations of the formation of the UAR.

PORTRAITS

The vehicles carried portraits of Nasser and when the travellers refused to remove the portraits the fight broke out. Daggers were used in the ensuing struggle.

Police rushed to the village, broke up the fight and made arrests.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese Cabinet met here today to discuss the internal security situation and to take measures to quell disturbance.

The Government ordered the removal of all outdoor portraits—whether of Nasser or Lebanese President Camille Chamoun—to avoid friction between partisans of both sides.—United Press.

CHINA VISIT PERMISSION EXPIRING

Washington, Mar. 17. The State Department reminded 26 news organizations today that US permission for their representatives to visit China expires on Saturday.

Press Officer Lincoln White said, however, that the Department is prepared to renew the permission until October 21.

The Department, in a policy reversal last August, decided to let 26 news gathering organizations send one man each to China. It validated passports for seven months to permit the trip.

However, Peking has not agreed to let any of the news men enter the country since the State Department gave its permission.—United Press.

Bus Crash

Lima, Mar. 17. Twenty persons were killed today when a lorry crashed into two oncoming buses between Trujillo and Chicla, 200 miles north of Lima.—France-Press.

FRENCH WRITER SUES GOVERNMENT

Paris, Mar. 17. French writer Jean Paul Sartre, publisher Rene Hailiard and the directors of two weeklies L'Express and France Observateur today initiated legal proceedings against the French Government for what they termed illegal suppression. The four started a civil suit against the Minister of the Interior and the Prefect of Police in the civil and administrative courts of Paris.

Issues of the two weeklies were seized by the police two weeks ago, and one of them, France Observateur, suffered five seizures in a week.

Sartre's monthly magazine Les Temps Modernes was seized three weeks ago, and his book, La Victoire was destroyed at the Juillard Publishing House Print Shop.

All the seizures were based on aspects of the Algerian problem discussed in the publications.—France-Press.

SINGAPORE MERCHANTS HELPING REBELS?

Singapore, Mar. 17. Singapore merchants were among the "foreign adventurers" who were helping the rebel forces in Central Sumatra, the Indonesian Consulate here said today in a press statement.

It was these adventurers, the statement affirmed, who derived the greatest benefit from the upheaval in Indonesia.

Efforts to destroy Indonesia's independent foreign policy were becoming apparent, the statement went on.

RE-AFFIRMED

It re-affirmed, however, that the present crisis was not civil war, and the Central Government's actions were only similar to those taken earlier against Darul Islam and the so-called "South Moluccan Republic".

Central and provincial governments were functioning "as usual," tourist traffic was unhindered, and communications were fully maintained in all but the rebel areas, the statement went on.

"The problem of the rebel clique does not represent racial or provincial matters," it added, but a matter of endangering the basic constitution.

Padang Radio claimed tonight that the Commander of North Sumatra, Lieutenant General Jamil Ginting, had fled the province.

The rebel radio said the defence of North Sumatra was now in the hands of the Army, Chief of Staff Major-General Abdul Haris Nasution, who had set up headquarters in the Rho Islands south of Singapore.—France-Press and Reuter.

EXPLOSIONS ROCK NICOSIA

Nicosia, Mar. 17. Five explosions tonight started fires in two military camps in Nicosia. Three of the explosions were at a Royal Engineers camp 50 yards from a police station. The explosions, believed to have been caused by incendiary bombs, started a fire in a timber store. The other explosions were reported in a Naah store outside the Weynes Keep military camp, west of Nicosia.

False Alarm

Fire engines in Nicosia had earlier been sent to the southern part of Nicosia in a false alarm. It was believed they were lured away to enable the fires in the military camps to get a hold.

The fire in the Naah camp was later put out. It was reported to have caused only slight damage.

In the last 10 days there have been 12 explosions, including tonight's at or near British service installations and camps. Some damage has been caused, but no casualties. At least two bombs have been electrically detonated. Another bomb, discovered in an Army launch at Paphos on February 12, was harmlessly disposed of.—Reuter.

Border Raid

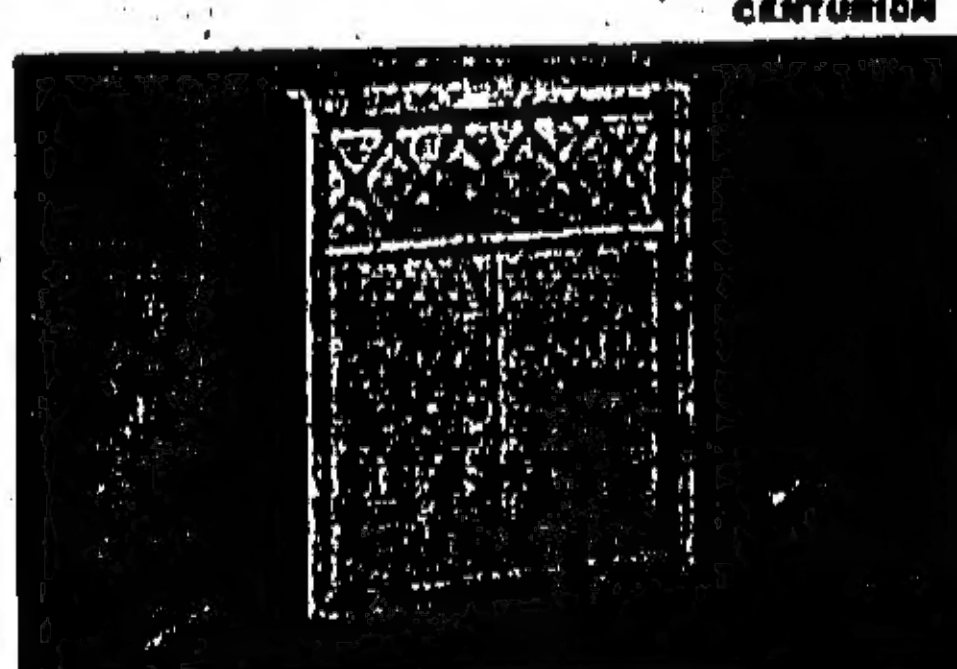
Parlin Mar. 17. Goan officials announced today that one person was killed and four others were wounded during an attack by Indian terrorists last Saturday against a police outpost at Pelen on Goa's southern border. Officials said the terrorists from the Indian Union made a night raid but ceased fire when the police garrison retaliated.—France-Press.

ADVICE TO MACMILLAN

London, Mar. 17. Labour Party MP, Emrys Hughes, today suggested that Prime Minister, Mr Harold Macmillan should ask President Dwight Eisenhower to increase American trade with the Soviet Union and China to relieve unemployment. Mr Hughes asked Home Secretary, Richard Butler, in the Commons: "As you deplore so well for the Prime Minister could you not persuade him to go to America a little earlier? As there are 3,000,000 unemployed in America, he might help the President if he suggested that we have been successful in solving our problem partially by having more trade with Russia and China."

Mr Butler replied, "My general reply is that the Prime Minister knows very well how to mind his business and how to look after the country's business." Mr Macmillan is expected to go to the United States at the beginning of June.—France-Press.

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CHENG CHUNG MAN in
"THE THREE SISTERS"
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THE THREAT OF SOVIET SUBMARINES STRESSED

Washington, Mar. 17. Senator Henry M. Jackson (Democrat-Washington) called today for at least US\$100 million in additional funds for research and development work on Navy anti-submarine warfare.

The Washington Democrat said testimony before his House-Senate atomic energy subcommittee showed "examples of critical research development programmes now going too slowly or else not being carried on because of lack of funds."

Mr. Jackson made the statement after all-day closed hearings of the subcommittee with Navy research experts, including Rear Admiral Hyman G. Rickover, father of the atomic submarine, and Rear Admiral Rawson Bennett, Chief of Naval Research.

Senator Jackson said in a statement that the Soviets had more than 500 submarines, while the United States had only 100 in operational condition.

"We know that (the Soviets) now have the capability of launching missiles with nuclear warheads of at least 500-mile range against our cities," senator Jackson said. "We must presume that the Soviets will soon have nuclear-powered submarines."

No Defence

Senator Jackson, who is also a member of the senate armed services committee, said, "we are simply not adequately prepared to protect our cities from this threat from under the sea. To do the job properly, we need new scientific and technological breakthroughs."

The only way to get them, he said, is by an "accelerated research and development effort."

The Navy's biggest problem, Senator Jackson said, is locating and tracking enemy subs. Once found, he said, the United States has adequate facilities for dealing with them. But, he said, the Navy "concedes we have quite a way to go for a real defence."

The subcommittee will continue closed hearings tomorrow, United Press.

Royal Successor To Mark Twain

London, Mar. 17. The Duke of Edinburgh will visit the offices of "Punch"—Britain's national humorous weekly—here on Wednesday and attend the 115-year-old weekly cartoon-choosing lunch.

He will be only the second "stranger" to sit in at this purely private gathering since Mark Twain's visit to London in March, 1907.—Reuter.

Lee • Astor

CANTONESE OPERA

To-day at 1.30 p.m.
記叙紫
"THE STORY OF PURPLE PIN"
At 8.00 p.m.
THE FAIRY FROM THE 9 HEAVEN
女玄天九
presented by SIEN FUNG MING PLAYERS
Admissions: \$12.80, \$8.90, \$7.60, \$6.00 \$4.70 & \$3.00

To-day at 1.30 p.m.
喜驚紅
At 8.00 p.m.
"THE LEGEND OF MADAME WHITE SNAKE"
傳蛇白
presented by SUN YIM YOUNG PLAYERS
Admissions: \$12.80, \$8.90, \$7.60, \$6.00 \$4.70 & \$3.00

SAVE A LIFE!
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A BLOOD DONOR
The British Red Cross Blood Collecting Centre
is now on the
8th Floor of Fung House,
Canaan Road, Central.

Green Hair Wasn't Acceptable

Baltimore, Mar. 17. MARGO Miller, a 13-year-old student who tinted her hair green in observance of St. Patrick's Day was turned away from Woodbourne Junior High School today by Principal Dorothy Duval, and Margo's father reacted with typical Irish wrath.

Leo Miller said: "It's the most ridiculous thing I've heard of in my life. They let those drapes with duck-tail haircuts and black leather jackets in school, and let them smoke all over the front steps. But they won't let my daughter in school because of a little green in her hair."

Observed Miller: "I ought to go over there and knock some heads with shillelagh."—United Press.

PARIS POLICE READY FOR CLASHES DURING ASSEMBLY

By HAROLD KING

Paris, Mar. 18. More than 1,000 security police have been drafted into Paris from the provinces for possible street clashes today when the French Assembly is to vote on a confidence motion which could bring down the government.

The motion is on constitutional reforms to ensure more stable governments.

The Communist Party has called for a "great anti-fascist meeting" tonight, while right-wing groups led by M. Jacques Soustelle, former Governor-General of Algeria, will hold a counter-demonstration in another hall.

The Communist newspaper Humanite alleged that there are in existence right-wing "armed and militarily organized groups."

Both meetings may be forbidden by the new police chief, M. Maurice Papon, who left his post in Algeria at 24 hours' notice and took over the Paris police force after last week's "more pay" demonstration by several thousand policemen outside the National Assembly.

But clashes between right and left may occur, even if the meetings are banned.

The Government seems assured of winning its confidence vote today. During the weekend the Conservatives, Catholics and Socialists, all represented in the Gaillard coalition cabinet, made it clear they did not want a cabinet crisis at the present time.

They fear it might seriously weaken the existing parliamentary regime and increase the strength of a movement in the country looking to General de Gaulle to take power again. —China Mail Special.

IKE CALLS MEETING

Washington, Mar. 17. President Eisenhower today invited representatives of the nation's governors to confer with him here on Wednesday on Administration plans for dealing up unemployment compensation benefits to help fight the recession.

The invitation went to the nine-member Executive Committee of the Governors' Conference.

The identical telegrams said Eisenhower "would like very much" to confer with the State Chief Executives in a "limited and temporary extension of the duration of unemployment benefits" to jobless workers. —United Press.

KLM Pilots' Strike Continues

1,200 Passengers Stranded

Amsterdam, Mar. 17. The tarmac at Schiphol Central Airport of KLM Royal Dutch Airlines worldwide services, was utterly deserted today when more than 300 pilots struck in protest against the summary dismissal of two of their colleagues.

Only one plane left here late today for London, the Super Constellation Isotop flown by Captain J. A. Deknatel, a non-union pilot.

Spokesmen of the KLM Pilots' Association stressed tonight that there were no passengers for London on board, as the plane had been chartered by the Iranian Petroleum Company for a flight from London to Beirut.

Mr. Lionel Metz, British-born chief pilot and one of the two men dismissed by KLM, said at a Hague press conference last night that "peaceful picketing" would take place.

The newspaper Trouw estimated that the pilots' strike was costing the Company a loss of income of about £150,000 a day.

The strike affected the quotation of KLM shares at the Amsterdam Stock Market today, the quotation dropping from 110 last Friday to 107 today.

All KLM ground staff, stewards, radio operators and mechanics remained idle at the airport today.

Foreign airlines continued and in some cases increased their services to and from Amsterdam. Some 1,200 KLM passengers were reported stranded.—Reuter.

Dies At Age Of 107

Belmont, Mar. 17. Charles Wesley Thier, who never smoked, drank or danced during his life, had never driven a car and remained a bachelor to the end, passed away yesterday.

Aged 107, Thier succumbed to pneumonia.

Eminent heart specialist Dr. Paul Dudley White, had prescribed Thier at several medical congresses, pointing out that although more than 100 years old, he was in excellent health and in possession of all his faculties.—France-Press.

AIR-CONDITIONED STAR • METROPOLE

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AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

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"DANIEL BOONE TRAIL BLAZER"
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3 SHOWS TO-DAY
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JERRY WALDS' production of
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COUNT FIVE and DIE

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TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
Return engagement by request! SEE a world of entertainment! It's a tour of ancient with a traveling troupe of entertainers!

TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
THE GUN-HOT FACTS! THE FINAL HOURS! THE MURDEROUS TERROR THAT TOPS THEM ALL!
DRAGONET of the BADLANDS!
Last of the Badmen
GEORGE MONTGOMERY

POP
DON'T LOOK ROUND, POP!
Seeing doubles
D'YOU THINK THE CHAP BEHIND YOU HAS HAD ONE TOO MANY?
PRECIOUS DROPS FOR PRECIOUS MOMENTS.
CHERRY HEERING

CABLE BRIEFS

Hollywood, Mar. 17. There's no doubt Southern California has been having unusually heavy rains. Mrs. Audrey Zimmerman dropped her wallet in the street. Before she could stoop to pick it up, the wallet and \$335 went swirling down a drain.—United Press.

Green Bay, Mar. 17. A letter mailed on May 25, 1952, to Miss Norma Schlenker reached her on Friday, though she now is married and lives at a new address. The Post Office had no explanation.—United Press.

San Jose, Mar. 17. Now it's a political issue. The California Republican Assembly passed a resolution yesterday which states: "The girls they don't please us." "That wears the chemise."—United Press.

Stanford, Mar. 17. Two small boys picked up for taking a rowboat without permission promised police yesterday they would "never take a boat like that again." "Like what?" Police asked. "Without oars, of course."—United Press.

Hartford, Mar. 17. Mrs. Roland D. Irish of Manchester gave birth to a boy here today on St. Patrick's Day. His name: Patrick Irish.—United Press.

London, Mar. 17. Almost every man in middle-age has back trouble or a slipped disc, according to Mr. G. R. H. Nugent, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation. "This is the age of the chair-borne," he told a London lunch given by manufacturers of office equipment.

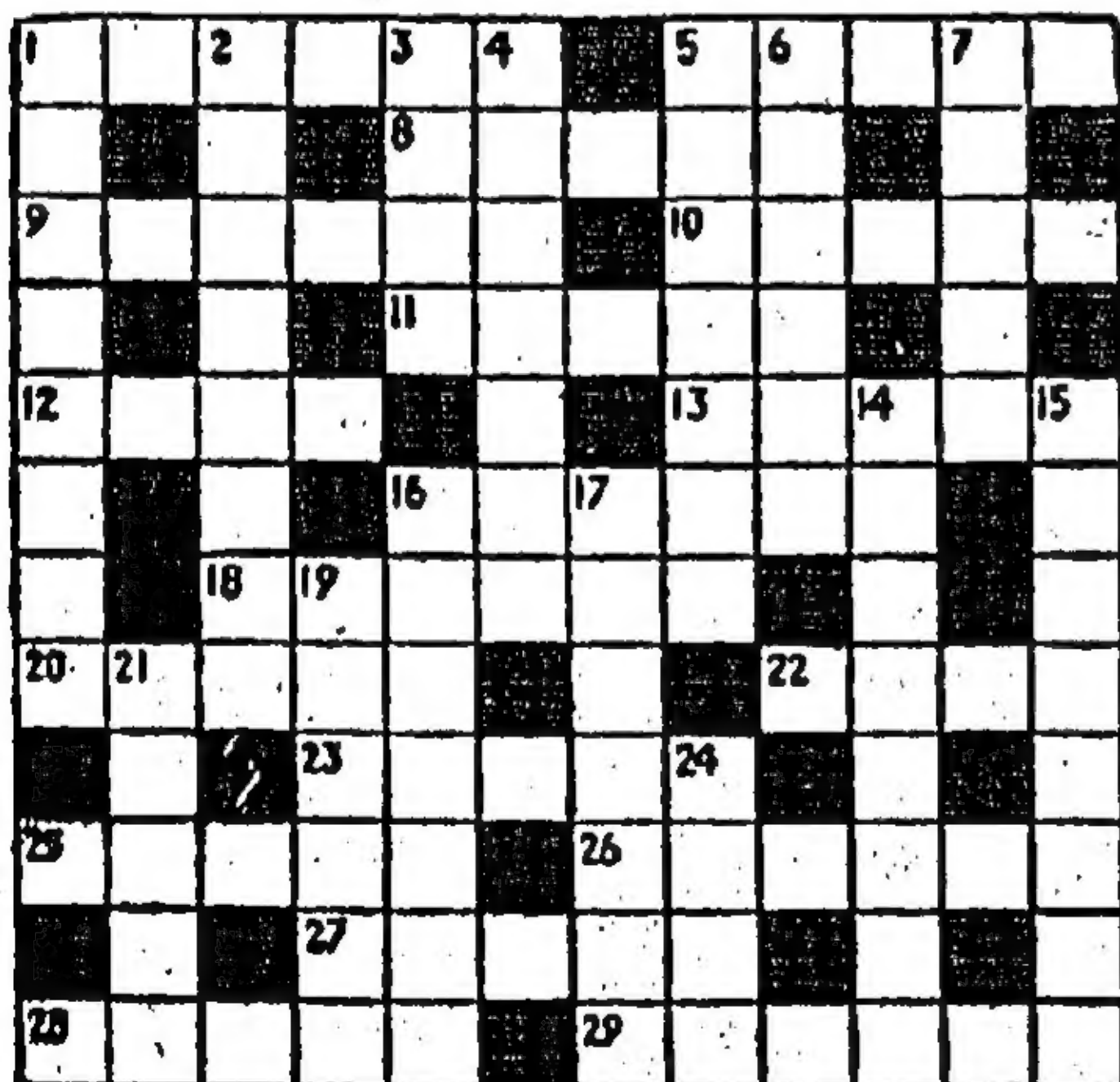
Alexandria, Mar. 17. A three-year-old boy today found \$55 in his father's trouser pockets and, knowing no better, gave the money to a boy who was passing the window.

But the other boy was old enough to understand; he took the money and ran.—China Mail Special.

Bulgarian's Letter

London, Mar. 17. The letter sent to Mr. Harold Macmillan, Britain's Prime Minister, by Marshal Nikolai Bulganin today appeared mainly to be a re-statement of the recent position taken up by the Soviet Union on "summit" conference issues, according to usually well-informed sources. The sources said that it took the same lines as the recent Soviet communications to the United States and it did not seem to contain any new important proposals.—Reuter.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS
- Chatterbox (6).
 - Miss Pruitt (5).
 - Slits the joint (5).
 - Trusted adviser (7).
 - Satan's works? (8).
 - Mother-of-pearl (5).
 - Right, legally (4).
 - Strayed (5).
 - Give satisfaction (6).
 - Customer (5).
 - Golf area (5).
 - Miss Lynn? (4).
 - Use a tomahawk? (5).
 - Not far away (5).
 - Lubricating (5).
 - Remove all traces (5).
 - Naval base (5).
 - Washed away (5).
- DOWN
- Having a flutter (8).
 - Some words or years (8).
 - Image (4).
 - Bible story (7).
 - Be a glutton (7).
 - Iron bars? (6).
 - Dance (5).
 - Put right (8).
 - Unbalanced (6).
 - Nipper (7).
 - Fence in? (7).
 - Diminish (6).
 - Does he line things up? (5).
 - It goes away to sea, as it were (4).

MONDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 1 Ararat, 5 Surer, 8 Rock, 9 Oporto, 11 Babel, 12 Pesto, 14 Muse, 15 Tress, 16 Holst, 19 Kite, 20 Rump, 24 Trent, 25 Acacia, 26 East, 27 Ruder, 28 Refectory, Down: 1 A-non, 2 A-top, 3 Aris, 4 Tootie, 5 Streets, 6 Robator, 7 A-dress, 10 Remus, 13 Shelter, 14 Mile End, 15 Starter, 17 Rider, 19 Insult, 21 Ness, 22 Race, 23 Beam.

"Complete And Indisputable Victory"
SOVIET RUSSIA'S ELECTIONS

Britain's Trade With China

London, Mar. 17. The London Daily Express said in its editorial today that trade with China should be started at once.

Saying that British businessmen are so anxious to trade with China that they are planning an exhibition of goods in Peking next year.

The Daily Express asked: "But how many of our products on show will be for sale? The Government, in agreement with the United States, prohibits exports of many types of goods to China for strategic reasons. So last year, Britain exported less to China (population 600,000,000) than to Switzerland (population 4.5 million)."

While pointing out that the United States might revise her policy towards China, the editorial added: "But what folly for Britain to wait on change of mood in Washington."—London Express Service.

OUTBREAK OF HOOLIGANISM IN MELBOURNE

Melbourne, Mar. 17. The Victorian Chief Secretary, Mr. Arthur Rylah, asked visiting police chiefs today to help find an answer to the outbreak of juvenile crime and hooliganism in Melbourne.

Victoria was facing a wave of hooliganism which, unless quickly stopped in the bud, could have serious consequences, he said.

Mr. Rylah was opening a conference at Victorian Police Headquarters of police chiefs from other states, New Zealand, the British Solomon Islands, Papua and New Guinea.

He said that the conference could be of great value to Victoria, particularly in its discussions of child delinquency.

Victoria had in the past been unusually free of juvenile crime, Mr. Rylah said.

"The problem was a community and a parental matter, but he was sure that while the police were taking special action to keep it under control the conference could produce new ideas on handling it."—China Mail Special.

Final Results Will Be Announced Soon

Moscow, Mar. 17. The Soviet government's official news agency announced a "complete victory" for the single-slate "Communist and non-party bloc" in Sunday's elections for the Supreme Soviet.

The Tass announcement said that all but a fraction of the voters has cast their ballots for the slate. It added that complete and final results would be announced in a few days.

The statement said a record electorate of 139,000,000 took part in the all-day voting. This meant a turnout of 99.97 per cent of the eligible electorate and compared very favourably with the last elections of 1954 when 99.98 per cent of the eligible voters turned out.

Of those who voted 99.57 per cent cast ballots for the single slate of Communist running for the "Soviet of Union" and 99.72 per cent voted for the single bloc for the Soviet of Nationalities, the other House of Russia's rubber-stamp "Parliament."

In The Midst Of 400 Russian Women



Bob Hope

American comedian Bob Hope, who is searching here for new television material, today sat wedged among 400 Russian women at the Moscow spring fashion show.

The show was held in the top floor of the G.U.M., Moscow's largest state store, where 12-odd capital's prettiest mannequins are staging twice-daily displays.

Hope, unknown here as the names of Hollywood personalities seldom penetrate the Iron Curtain, was twice asked by keen women viewers to "move out of the way."—Reuter.

AMERICAN SUEZ PILOTS GET THE SACK

Port Said, Mar. 17. The Egyptian Suez Canal authority has dismissed two American pilots on the grounds that they were carrying on "union organization" activities among Canal pilots and employees, informed sources said today.

One pilot A. Anderson, left Egypt at the end of December and the other, B. Kennel, on February 20.

It is alleged that they attempted to organize a three-hour protest strike to persuade the authorities to free an Egyptian pilot, Abdel Kader Eloui, who was reported placed under arrest when he tried to organize support for "certain demands" to the administration.

The strike failed when other Egyptian and foreign pilots refused to support it.—United Press.

Folies Bergere Returns "THERE ARE NO SUBSTITUTES FOR NUDES"

Paris, Mar. 17. The Folies Bergere returns in all its undraped glory on Friday night, ending the depressing (for Frenchmen and tourists) reports that the biggest stiletto show of them all had gone for good.

The Folies were closed on January 4 and the performers put their clothes back on. Reports except Paris that had the first—that rising production costs had finished them for good.

Paul Derval announced the new Folies—

Alternative

The only alternative to voting for the single Communist slate open to the Russian voters was to cross out the names on the printed ballot forms and write in their own candidates.

To do this voters had to go into a secret voting booth, while the majority merely popped the printed ballot forms into the slot in front of the polling station official.

Moscow Radio also announced that Marshal Georgi Zhukov, recently demoted to the post of Chairman of the State Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, headed three Americans who attended the elections as unofficial observers at a diplomatic party this evening.

Earlier in the day, Nikita Khrushchev discussed the Soviet electoral system with the Americans in a minute interview at the Kremlin.—United Press.

THE NAZIS IN SPANDAU

Bonn, Mar. 17. An American Embassy spokesman said here today the three Western allies were consulting informally about a "better solution" for the safekeeping of three remaining major Nazi war criminals than keeping them in Spandau Prison in Berlin.

The spokesman was answering questions about reports that the four-power Spandau Prison would shortly be dissolved.

He said the matter had not yet been raised with the Russians, who share in the control of Spandau, a goal. Nor were formal negotiations under way between the three Western allies concerned, Britain, France and the United States.

The three prisoners left in Spandau are Rudolf Hess, America's deputy, and Erwin von Schirach, the Hitler youth leader, and Albert Speer, former Munitions Minister.

Hess is serving a life sentence, Schirach and Speer are serving 20-year sentences imposed by the four-power War Crimes Tribunal at Nuremberg in 1946.—China Mail Special.

Manila, Mar. 17. A strong earthquake rocked Catbalogan City on Samar Island, in the Central Philippines for several seconds today.

So far, no damage or casualties have been reported.—France-Press.

MARISA GETS HER WISH



MARISA Legnani, age 9, wished that someone would build a bridge over the swollen River Chelona so she could get to school on time each day. She got her wish when an American film company, on location in Italy, built one for her. Now little Marisa has been invited to visit the United States—as a personal guest of Mamie Eisenhower, wife of the US President. She is shown touring the sights of Rome with actor William Holden prior to her departure for New York.—Keystone.

Husband Stands By Wife Who Killed Infant Son

Naha, Okinawa, Mar. 17. The husband of an American woman who smothered and buried her baby and then reported it kidnapped said on Sunday night that his wife "comes first" and that he does not blame her.

Terrance D. Hitt, 28, Plymouth, Michigan, apologized to Okinawans through newsmen for causing "inconvenience" in the false kidnapping report, which touched off a three-day search.

The boy, six-week-old Brady Dean Hitt, was found buried in the vegetable garden behind the Hitt home. The mother, Madelyn, 26, confessed she smothered the baby. Doctors said she was suffering from a "psychosis."

Hitt said it was brought on because his wife's mother was not present when the child was born.

"Ever since the baby was born, she hasn't been quite herself," said Hitt, who had no previous knowledge that the mother had killed her son.

"There were times when I believed she didn't recognize me," he said. "I don't blame my wife a bit. I realise we won't have a boy any more but right now my wife comes first."

"I don't care to see her name slandered and I want everyone to be as helpful as they can," he said. He was his wife's "first and firmest" advocate.

"I tried," he said, "to give her my love. Actually I thought when a woman doesn't have her mother with her when she has a baby, then she feels as though everything is on her shoulders."—United Press.

Avalanche

Schuls, Mar. 17. A huge avalanche killed five German tourists, three of them women, who were skiing on the Gletschspitz mountain near here today.—Reuter.

Escape Through The Iron Curtain

Goettingen, Mar. 17. Three refugees from Polish-controlled East Prussia arrived in West Germany today after a week hidden in a railway goods wagon without food and water.

The three men, aged from 20 to 25 years old, showed away in a West-bound goods train eight days ago in Allenstein, East Prussia.

They had food and water for one day only.

The men, who asked to remain unidentified to avoid harm to relatives still behind the Iron Curtain, said permission for them to visit the West was refused by the Polish authorities.—United Press.

DUBLIN CELEBRATES Gay Festivity On St Patrick's Day

Dublin, Mar. 17. Millions of Irishmen around the world joined today in celebrations of St. Patrick's Day—and half of Dublin went to the dogs.

The traditional holiday dawned fine and clear, and crowds turned out for the parades and shows which always mark the day. The best turnout of all attendees the dog show, which enjoyed one of the two open bars in town.

The only other bar that was allowed to remain open was at the railway station, and to get a drink there a man had to buy a ticket for some place outside the country.—British Northern Ireland, in most cases.

Despite the lack of liquid refreshment, Dublin was a gay city, public buildings and many stores and office buildings were festooned in the National Colours.

After the dog show, the most popular event of the day was the industrial parade. More than 150 brightly decorated floats representing major Irish industries rolled down O'Connell Street, while thousands of Dubliners and country visitors applauded and cheered.

Top officials of the city and the country observed the holiday in foreign parts. Lord Mayor James Carroll and his predecessor, Robert Brisco, were in New York, while Premier Eamon De Valera and Foreign Minister Frank Ailes were in London.—United Press.

Bomb Blast In Jewish Centres

Racial Terrorism In Miami; Swift Action Urged

Washington, Mar. 17. Benjamin H. Chasin, National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans, called today for swift action by State and Federal agencies to capture dynamiters who set off blasts at Jewish centres in Nashville and Miami.

Chasin wired Attorney General William Rogers, Florida Governor LeRoy Collins and Tennessee Governor Frank Clement that the bombings appear to be the start of "nation-wide terrorist activities."

"Swift and dynamic action is the only deterrent to a state of anarchy," Chasin said in urging use of all police powers to find the bombers.

Guards were posted at a Jewish Temple and another civic centre here, FBI agents were assigned to Federal District Judge William E. Miller who was threatened with death, apparently because of an investigation.

Governor Frank Clement offered a \$5,000 reward, maximum under State Law, for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the persons who blew up the Jewish community centre here last night.

Temple Beth El in Miami was bombed earlier yesterday. No one was injured in either explosion.

The City of Nashville offered a \$100 reward. Other rewards were offered by citizens. Mayor Ben West vowed that "No stone will be unturned to find the perpetrators of this outrage."

Clement said he was "shocked and appalled at the thought that anyone in Tennessee would commit the sacrilege of wantonly destroying a religious building."

Officials and citizens equally were aroused in Miami, where the Jewish building was lifted off its foundation by about a dozen sticks of dynamite. Damage to the building was estimated at \$30,000.

The dynamite bomb was planted at the front entrance of the Jewish centre here. It knocked out three glass doors and ripped away part of the ceiling, causing damage of at least \$8,000. Detonating wire was found at the scene. A "flea" like my car was picked right up off the ground" when the blast occurred.

Minutes after the bombing, a man called the United Press Bureau here and said: "This is the Confederate underground. We have just blown up that integration centre and our next target is Judge Miller. We are going to shoot him down in the street." The man called other news agencies with a similar message.

Another man, possibly the same one, telephoned Rabbi William Silverman and threatened to bomb the Jewish Synagogue here.

Judge Miller recently ordered Nashville school officials to submit a plan for the integrating the public school system.

There were reports that police headquarters in Miami had obtained recording of a telephone call made there shortly before the bomb went off at the Temple. Services and parochial school classes at the building were cancelled.

The dynamiting was the first since 1951, where bombs went off at several Jewish centres, two Catholic churches and several negro homes.

The Hattie Cotton Elementary School was bombed last autumn in Nashville. It occurred during disorders that accompanied the integration of first grades in city schools.—United Press.

To Meet Her Husband A Last Time



Soraya

Milan, Mar. 17. The Shah of Iran and his divorced Queen Soraya will meet for the last time at a secret rendezvous in the Apilles after the Shah's next trip to the United States, the mass circulation magazine "Gente" claimed here tonight.

In an exclusive article from Cologne—Germany, "Gente" reported that Shah asked Soraya to forgive him in a dramatic 10-minute phone call from Teheran on March 12.

The Shah asked and obtained forgiveness after he explained to her the difficult situation of Iran and the need of avoiding a fight between the factions and tribes of the country, the magazine added.

Soraya reacted "in a very dignified way," abstained from any reproach and fought back her bitterness, according to the magazine.

But "Gente" said she asked the Shah to see her again before marrying another woman.

"The Shah answered by advising her not to come to Iran and suggesting a secret rendezvous on an island of the Apilles, after the trip he makes to the United States," the magazine said.

The meeting could therefore take place without any publicity and, above all, away from Soraya's enemies.—United Press.

Ban On Tommy Steele

Pretoria, Mar. 17. Pretoria city council today banned a performance by Tommy Steele, the British rock 'n' roll singer, in the city hall on March 25.

A number of Afrikaans cultural organizations had protested against the performance.—Reuter.

Last Exercise

Paris, Mar. 17. British Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, Deputy Supreme Allied Commander, will direct his last SHAPE exercise "CEX-8" from April 28 to May 1, SHAPE Commander General Lauris Norstad announced today.

The "Inshore Command Post Exercise" is held for the study and discussion of military problems of Allied Command Europe. Field Marshal Montgomery is retiring next September.—France-Press.

Fighter Squadrons

Landstuhl, Mar. 17. Three United States Air Force fighter-interceptor squadrons stationed in Britain are being transferred to the continent. It was announced here today. Two will go to West Germany and one to Northern France.

All three squadrons are equipped with F-86 Sabre jet fighters.—Reuter.

MY NIGHT IN AN OPIUM DEN

LOGAN GOURLAY

CHAPTER SIX OF HIS WORLD TOUR

— with
Prince Ned

OTHERWISE THE GRANDSON OF THE KING OF SIAM
WHO INSPIRED THAT MUSICAL "THE KING AND I"

IT was in a squalid back alley in the heart of Bangkok and it looked like the door to a Chinese laundry which never washes white.

The sign outside said only one thing—Drink that celebrated American soft beverage—but behind the door with the unattractive red sign was a thriving opium den, one of the hundreds throughout Bangkok, the fascinating capital of Siam, or Thailand, where everything and anything is legal.

I stepped inside with his Serene Highness Prince Prasobh, Sukhavasi, grandson of the King of Siam who inspired "Anna and the King of Siam" and the musical "The King and I."

Protector

The prince who is no more than five feet tall was originally nicknamed Nid, Siamese for small, but in the American university where he was educated it became Ned.

I must explain right away that Prince Ned was there as guide and protector. He is not an opium addict. Neither am I, though I read Graham Greene diligently.

We were greeted, of course, by a huge so thick it was poorly called and by a Chinese den-keeper so thin he was hardly discernible.

The den, what I could see of it, was a low-ceilinged room



about the size of the average English church hall with row upon row of long wall-to-wall wooden tables which I can only describe as refectory style without intending sacrilege.

Each table or bench was divided into small cubicles but the partitions were single spars providing no privacy. But then, as Prince Ned pointed out, opium provides its own privacy.

It was a busy night in the old den, every cubicle that was visible had its smoker reclining on the hard wood as if it were a bed, wearing mostly nothing but shorts and singlet that had never been touched by a Chinese laundry. But Charlie, the Chinese keeper, said with a broad Chinese smile he could find room for us.

Prince Ned explained that we just wanted, to see what went on but that we were not spies from the Narcotics Division of the United Nations. Charlie, smiling a little less, said we had better buy some opium anyway. We didn't argue with Charlie. He shuffled off and brought back a small round brown tin containing a supply of black opium. It cost the equivalent of

seven shillings, which might be considered very cheap for a passport to paradise.

We were led by Charlie to a vacant cubicle, passing several rows of reclining smokers. They were either engrossed in preparing the opium for smoking or gazing rapturously at the ceiling after smoking. A few were sleeping with the blissful smiles of drugged exotic dreams. Prince Ned said patriotically: "You'll notice that not only is the den run by Chinese but most of the customers are Chinese. You don't find many Thais in dens like this."

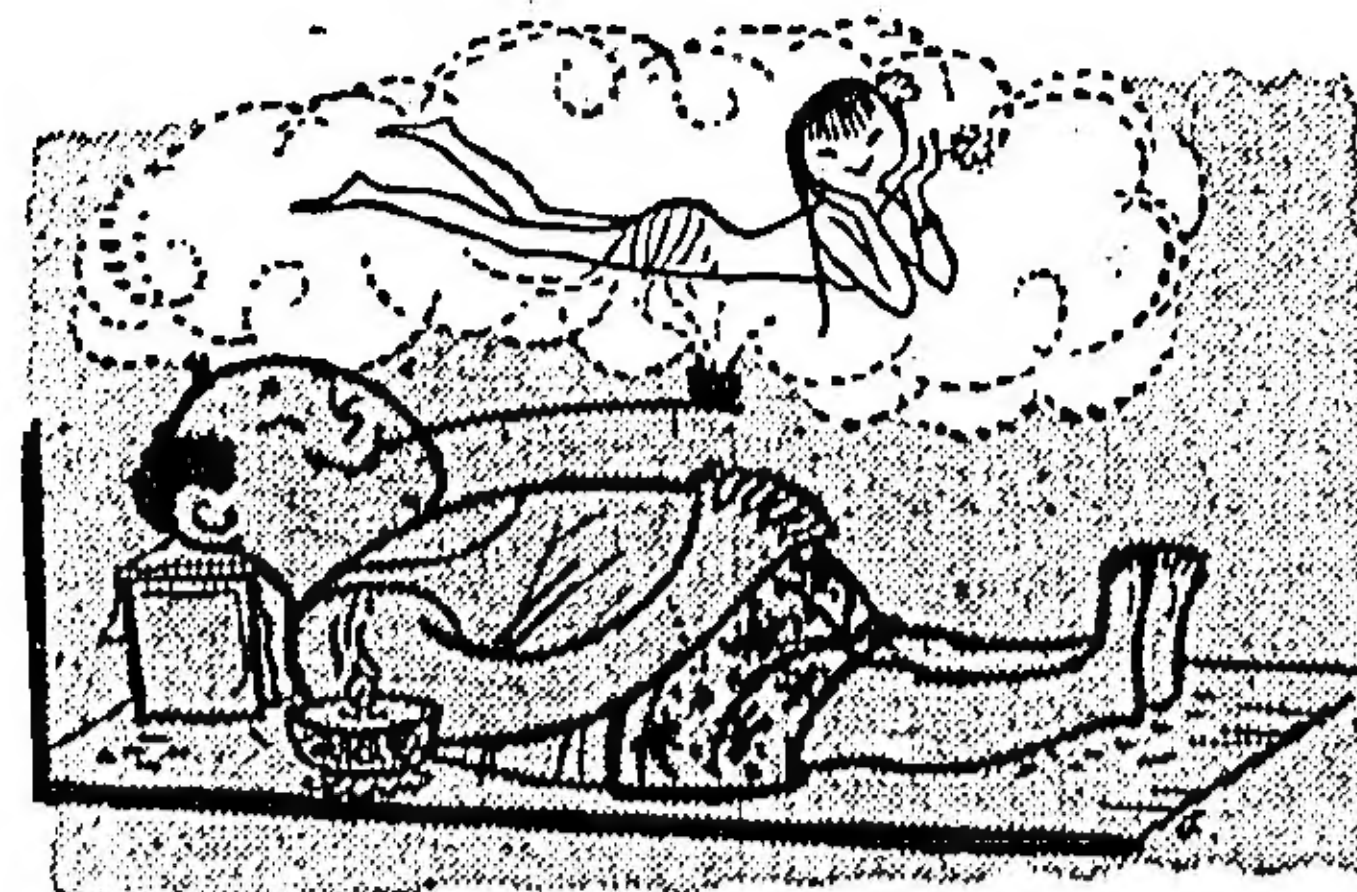
When we were installed in a cubicle squatting on the hard wood, Prince Ned produced from his pocket a bottle of whisky, the produce of Scotland fortunately, not of his own beloved Thailand.

Rapturous

Charlie said: "Whisky velly silly. Opium better for making happy, opium quicker." He was doubtless dead right, but we stuck to the slower stuff, while he started to prepare the quickie, obviously on the principle that it would be silly to let it lie unused.

With a thin stick he scooped out a small ball of opium which looked like sticky black ointment. He lay down with his head on a square tin covered with a grubby cloth and held the ball of opium on the end of the stick over a small oil lamp.

After heating the ball for several minutes he stuffed it into the bowl of the long wooden pipe, blew and inhaled strongly. Finally he exhaled a



The setting

The prince and I settled down to whisky and conversation. If you think an opium den is a mad setting for a conversation you don't know Bangkok. It is a cacophony of car horns hooting, bicycle bells ringing, starved dogs whining, mosquitoes buzzing, lizards croaking and Siamese shrilling which can be heard everywhere except in the smoke-insulated opium dens.

The prince talked about Anna, the English governess who worked for his grandfather King Mongkut and looked after his father, the Prince Adisara.

"I never knew her of course but my father used to tell me she was a very forbidding woman. She certainly wouldn't have approved of anyone, particularly a prince, coming to a place like this, neither would my grandfather. He was a very pious man. He spent 20 years as a Buddhist priest before he became king."

"But it is difficult to ban opium completely in a country like this with such a large Chinese population. With legalised dens like this the Government can keep some check on it and also make some revenue from taxation."

A plump, well-fed lady, obviously a neophyte, sat up in an opposite cubicle and stared at us uncomprehendingly. The prince said: "She's probably a street walker trying to forget her trade. You don't see many women in the dens. At one time they wouldn't have been admitted but everything is changing."

He added, with something like a Siamese chuckle: "Soon there won't even be any princes left in Siam. Certainly there were many before, nearly as many as Chinese opium smokers in the old days."

"The king had many wives and many children and they all became princes and princesses. Now we are dying out and by the new laws we cannot pass our titles on to our children and we are monogamous."

His grandfather the king, after he gave up the celibate priesthood, took unto himself several wives and countless concubines. He fathered more than 70 children. Now the prince has only one wife and a mere six children.

He said: "Of course, polygamy would be economically impossible these days. I could not support a horde of wives and children. The only unearned income I have as a prince from the State amounts to about £4 per year."

The prince, who lost £20,000 in business deals after the war, now works for a living as a translator and magazine editor for the British Information Services. His duties don't

usually include escorting columnists to an opium den. The lady in the opposite cubicle leaned over and asked if we would kindly give her a spot of opium. Prince Ned gallantly offered her whisky. She looked horribly shocked, she screamed Siamese abuse at us.

Women!

It was time to go. We left Charlie puffing and smiling beatifically. Prince Ned said sadly: "Women shouldn't be

admitted to a place like this. They just cause trouble." A lesser prince might have been tempted to stop for a consoling nerve-soothing, trouble-eradicating puff. Instead he stopped outside next to the non-intoxicating red sign to sip a little whisky, which is slower but safer. He said again: "Everything is changing, women definitely shouldn't be admitted."

I had to tell Prince Ned they were even going to admit women to the House of Lords in England.

ORIENTAL GLANCES

First, about a cat....

BRITISH Ambassador to Siam is a gentleman called Richard Whittington and he has a cat and it is Siamese, of course. He accepts the inevitable facetious remarks diplomatically. He has to.

A WHITE elephant, the first since 1827, has been found in Siam and presented to the king according to tradition, which decrees that such a rarity is almost sacred.

I wouldn't have missed the ceremony when His Majesty garlanded it and fed it with specially selected bananas and young coconuts and I will always treasure the announcement which said: "The white elephant had all the traditional requirements including pink body colour." It also said: "The possession of a white elephant is considered lucky and has been the cause of several wars."

LOCAL monetary unit is the tical, which is worth about fourpence. It is pronounced tickle. Bartering is the accepted custom for most purchases, so even the most innocent transaction can take on embar-

assing and ambiguous meanings. I shall not elaborate.

I HAD to spend a day in Calcutta waiting for a plane to bring me here. Prohibition laws are less strict there than in Bombay and Delhi, but when I asked for a bottle of champagne the waiter said: "I can't give you any." I asked for a whisky and the waiter said: "I can't give you any." I can't give you anything to drink. It is the one day of the week when Calcutta is dry. It was also the one day of the year when I try to celebrate my birthday.

PRIZE-FIGHTING here is a unique indigenous art which allows the contestants to kick as well as punch each other. Their feet are bare. A Siamese band plays during the rounds to inspire them. At one night's display in the Bangkok stadium the American lady tourist next to me said to her husband: "I'm real disappointed. They do each other more damage at the fights in Madison Square Garden and they're only using their fists." At that moment Rokinat Loongatule, described in the programme as "tough slugged fighter with limbs," knocked his opponent under the chin into unconsciousness. The lady decided to stay. I left.

ROUND UP

Moscow

BRITISH European Airways will start flights from London to Moscow, via Copenhagen, some time this summer under an agreement signed here. And Russia's Aeroflot will fly Moscow-Copenhagen-London.

The flights—BEA's longest—will start on a four-line-a-week schedule, later to be extended to six a week, three return flights by each company.

Lord Douglas, chairman of BEA, said that like most new air routes, this one would probably not pay for the first couple of years, but he hoped it would promote bigger tourist exchanges between the two countries.

BEA will at first use Vickers Viscount turbo-prop planes and the flying time will be about six hours. If Aeroflot use TU-104 jets, it will be less than four hours. But they may use IL-18 turbo-prop jets if they are less noisy than the jets.

Lord Douglas said he had discussed the new air service with Khrushchev, who expressed pleasure that it would soon start, and said: "It is much better to carry passengers to London than bombs."

BEA has ordered six Comet Mark IVs for the end of 1959, said Lord Douglas, and when these were available there would probably be a non-stop Moscow-London service with a flying time of about four hours. As it is, the new service will be the quickest way of getting to Moscow, not only from London but also from New York "until U.S. lines open their own service."

Lord Douglas said Pan-American Airways were "loping with this idea," and he had the impression that Aeroflot would welcome it.

Katmandu

AN American expedition, led by W. M. Russell, has entered the upper gorge of the Arun River Valley to start a three-month search for the Abominable Snowman.

The main expedition party, consisting of the leader, two other members, twelve Sherpa guides, and four boogie dogs, started their trek from Bhairahar, South-east Nepal.

The Nepal government has given permission for dogs to go along to "smell out" the Snowman. But they mustn't kill it.

Karachi

ARCHAEOLOGICAL excavations at Kot Diji, in the princely Khairpur state, 200 miles north of Karachi, have added 7,000 years to the knowledge of Pakistan's history.

Until now, Harappa-Mohen-jodaro, an Indus Valley civilisation, dating back to 2500 BC, was considered the oldest, and was contemporaneous with Mesopotamian civilisation.

The Kot Diji excavations, besides ante-dating the Indus Valley civilisation by 200 years, makes the Kot Diji civilisation older and contemporaneous with the Nile Valley civilisation.

The excavations have revealed a massive fortified citadel, with spacious rooms and mudbrick flooring.

SINGAPORE merchants trading with Indonesia have refused to accept Djakarta currency because millions of counterfeit notes are flooding Java and Sumatra.

Result: a sharp drop in the exchange rate of the Indonesian rupiah.

The official rate has dropped from three rupiahs for one Straits dollar to nearly six. The black market rate has dropped from eleven rupiahs for one Straits dollar to 16.5.

Traders say the counterfeit notes are so well made it is impossible to tell them from genuine ones.

The dud notes are reported to be made in Japan.

Christchurch, N. Z.

NUCLEAR power plants may be used for generating electricity at American Antarctic bases, the Commander of the United States Antarctic expedition, Rear Admiral G. Dufek, said.

He said atomic plants would tremendously reduce supply problems. When the bases were built, 42 per cent of the cargo was diesel fuel. When the bases were being re-supplied the fuel component was 76 per cent of the cargo.

"Atom power is the answer for the future, especially for Hawaii, Wilkes and McMurdo," he added.

Admiral Dufek could "speak with authority" that the United States had no military bases in the Antarctic and had "no intention whatsoever to build military bases in the Antarctic, sub-Antarctic or the surrounding waters."

Admiral Dufek said the latest figures showed his Antarctic task force was operating money at the rate of a million dollars a month in New Zealand.

FRANCE TELLS BRITAIN 'DON'T MEDDLE IN THE ALGERIAN WAR'

From SAM WHITE: Algiers.

ROBERT LACOSTE, French Resident Minister in Algeria, told me that any Anglo-American "meddling" in the Algerian war would touch off "tragic disorder" here.

He was referring to the possible consequences of the "good offices" mission of Mr Robert Murphy, United States Under-Secretary of State, who has just returned from a visit to President Bourguiba of Tunisia.

M. Lacoste, burly former trade union leader and lifelong Socialist, is far and away the most discussed French politician today.

His pugacity and obstinacy make him the physical symbol of those in France who wish to see the three-year-old Algerian war through to a finish.

Suspicion

He spoke to me against a background of growing pessimism in Paris and of intense suspicion in Paris and here that the "good offices" mission of Mr Murphy in France's dispute with Tunisia would lead to an "inter-nationalisation" of the Algerian problem.

He received me in his huge office in the skyscraper building which houses France's administrative machine in Algiers.

The bustling city outside resembles nothing more than a South Coast town on the eve of D-Day.

The place is alive with troops, and despite the fact that it is six months since the last terrorist outrage here, it bristles with military alertness.

In the brilliant Mediterranean sunshine patrols with Tommy-

guns and rifles at the ready weave through the thick shopping crowds.

Every now and again someone is stopped and searched.

Enter a public place with a parcel and you are immediately ordered to open it. To complete the picture of a city at war a midnight curfew replaces the blackout.

M. Lacoste expanded on the Anglo-American good offices mission when I asked him if the French blunder in bombing the Tunisian village of Sakiet was not responsible for its creation.

"Don't you believe a word of it," he said, with a broad smile. "An incident like Sakiet was inevitable. You can't expect an army to allow itself indefinitely to be attacked from behind a supposedly neutral frontier."

"But even without Sakiet, Bourguiba would have tried to get Britain and America to interfere in the war."

"Sakiet only made it easier. At the first hint that we were prepared to do a deal with the Algerian rebels—and this is what Anglo-American good offices is extended to include Algeria would mean—this place would blow up."

Elections

When I asked him if Bourguiba were not holding the Nasser-inspired Nationalists at bay, M. Lacoste said: "It's not Bourguiba who controls the rebels."

"It is they who control him. Bourguiba while pretending to be a friend of the West has succeeded in bringing Russia into the Algerian war."

"The bulk of the weapons we are now capturing come from Eastern Europe and are brought

here via Egypt, Syria and Tunisia."

M. Lacoste then turned on the Americans.

"If the U.S. could have brought itself to believe that France could win this war, it would have been finished by now. As it is, U.S. doubts have fed Cairo's hopes."

I asked M. Lacoste if the optimism felt in Paris last December about an early French victory is still justified.

He replied: "It is now more justified than ever."

M. Lacoste said he was confident that free elections could be held throughout Algeria this year.

He added: "We are determined to see to it that these elections are carried out on the basis of complete equality between 1,200,000 Europeans and the 9,000,000 Muslims."

"In regions where Muslims have the majority of the population they will have a majority of the representation."

"And we are going to get centre and left of centre Muslim

candidates, not just the usual yes-men as before."

M. Lacoste glanced out of his window and with a wide sweep of his hand pointed out a brilliant panorama of the 130-year-old French city.

'Chaos'

"When I arrived here two years ago," he said, "this place was rotten. Everybody went in fear. Look at it now—complete order and tremendous growing prosperity."

"We will never desert our compatriots here. The chaos that would be produced by our departure would be even worse than the chaos in India and Indonesia."

"I am a Socialist. I believe in the right of self-determination. We are determined to give the Muslim population full equality with the French."

"We know that that is what they really want and that they would never wish to sever their tie with France."



BOOTH'S

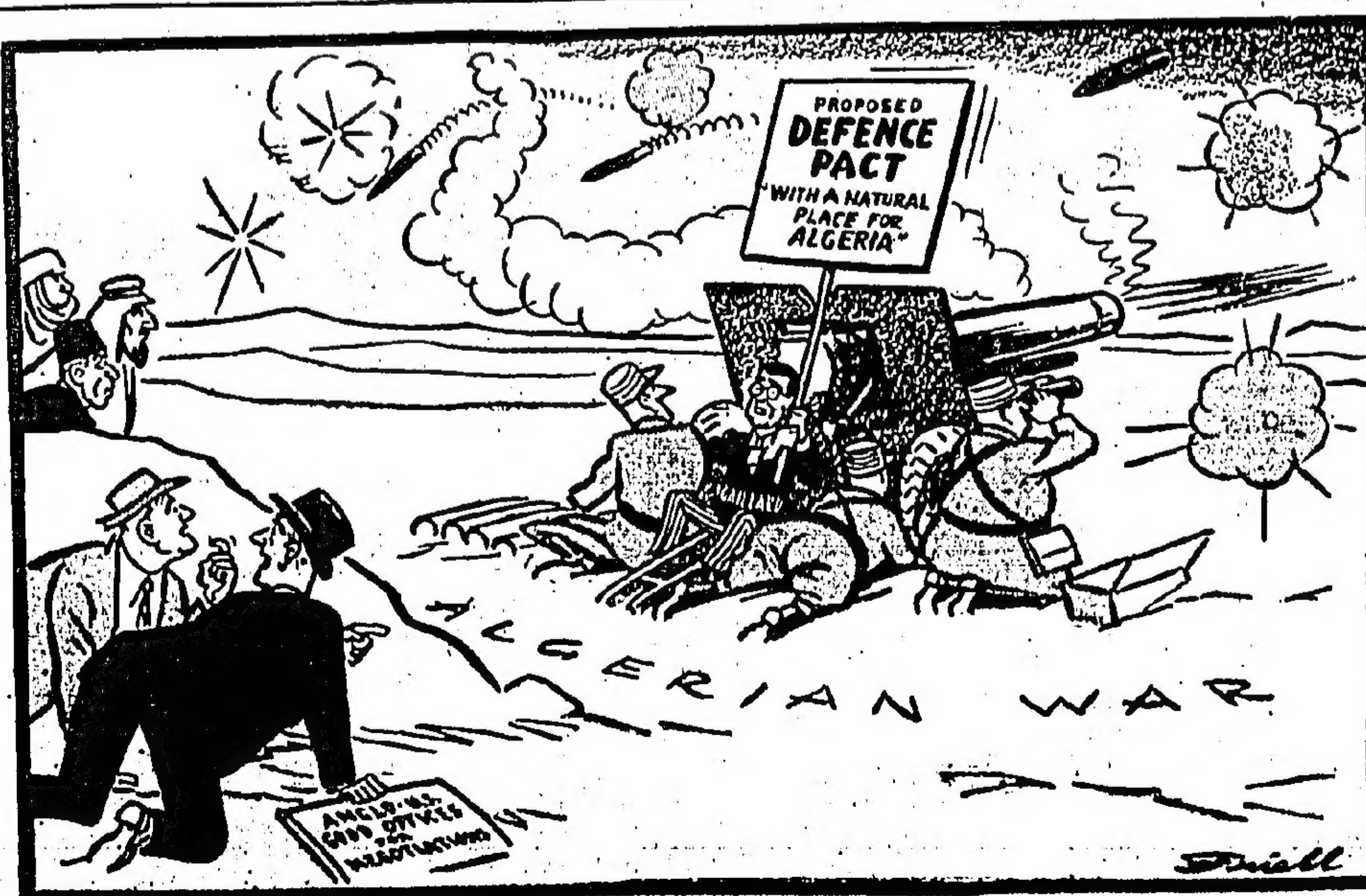
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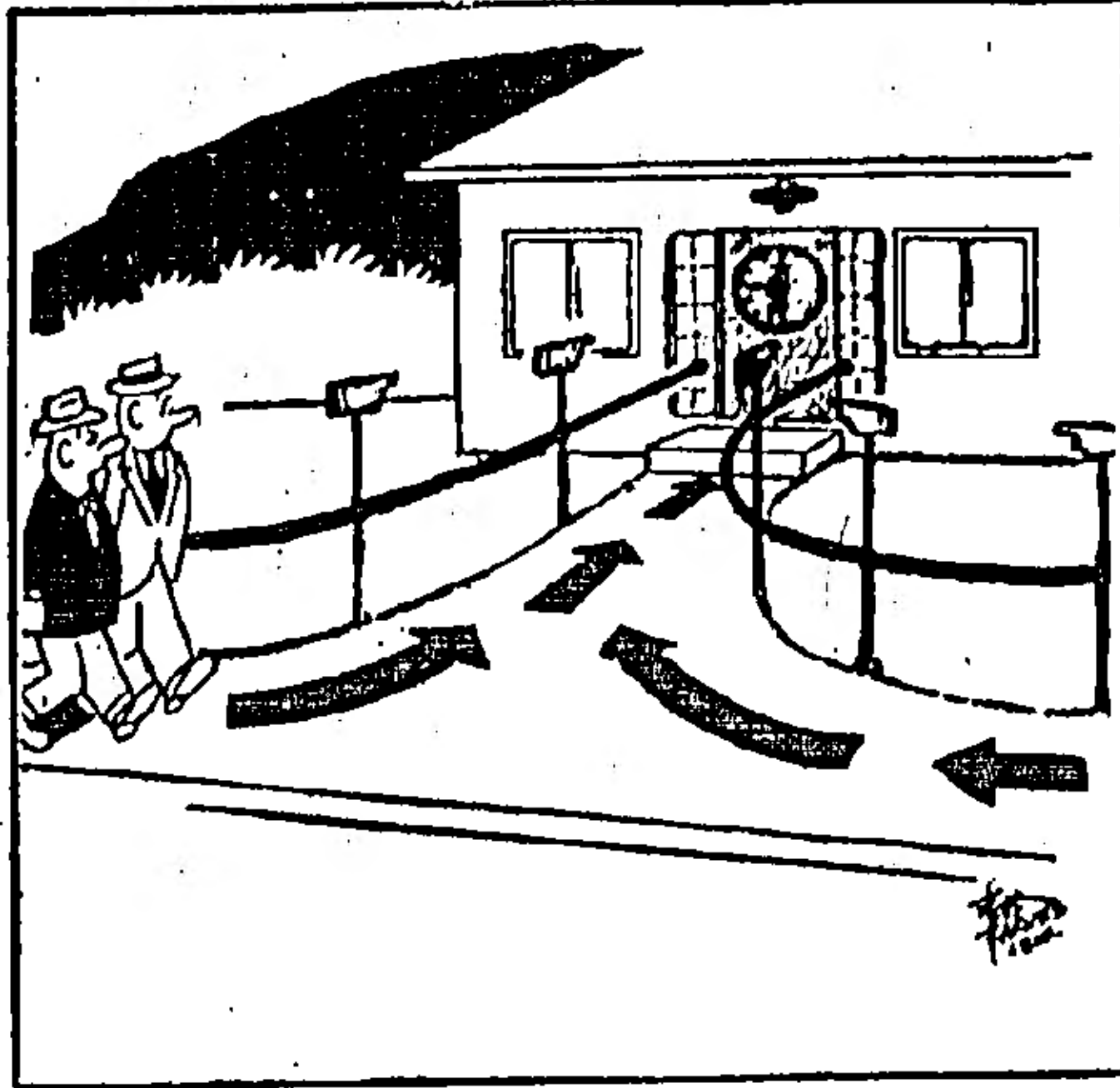
SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST LTD., HONG KONG & KOWLOON



"He says it's a good idea and he's putting in another 30,000 troops to convince them!"

LONDON, KATZKE SERVICE

This Funny World



"I understand he's a pretty heavy drinker."

YOUR BIRTHDAY ... By STELLA

TUESDAY, MARCH 18

BORN today, you have a forceful personality and are well-fitted for public life in one of the various forms. It is likely that politics will interest you at a fairly early age, and if you broaden your outlook beyond the local scene, you can become an outstanding statesman, as well. If you are not content with being a big frog in a little pond, you will find it almost as easy to grow into a big frog in a big pond. You have the ability to make friends, influence people and gain their support.

Naturally, anyone as positive as you are will also make enemies. However, you have a great facility for eventually turning enemies into friends. Even those who may disagree with you will respect you for your opinions. There is a hint of authority in your manner which cannot be ignored or denied. You have great presence of mind and are calm in a crisis. You seem to know what should be done. Many will disagree with what you do.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—Be eminently practical in all that you undertake today. Avoid high-flying ideas without any factual basis.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Let your intuitions guide you wisely. Pay attention to your health and guard against an upset in this direction.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Take a trial balance of your assets and liabilities. See that you are going where you want to. If not, change your direction.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—Get your affairs in order. A day for clearing the decks of unfinished business, to be ready for new plans.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—Press personal affairs. Do the things that need to be done on the domestic scene. Handle a legal matter competently.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—Take stock of your life. Tie up any loose ends in important affairs that

but at least you have done something; you don't sit back and wait for someone else to do it! You have a vital and magnetic personality and are attracted to those with similar traits. However, you might become romantically involved with someone who is not your cultural equal. There may be a tremendous romantic subliminal thought before marrying this type. You would all too easily tire of one who has physical charm but a limp or undeveloped mind! You are also so mentally vigorous to wed a "sandy-pandy."

Among those born on this date were: Grover Cleveland, U.S. President; Margaret Culkin Banning, author; Richard Pearson Strong, biologist; John C. Calhoun, statesman; Francis Lieber, educator, and Betty Compton, actress.

To find what the stars have in store for you tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

are dangling. Get them straightened out.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Question new propositions carefully before making any important decision. Intuition should be a safe guide now.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—Follow through on the basis of yesterday's beginnings. Enjoy pleasant social recreation evening.

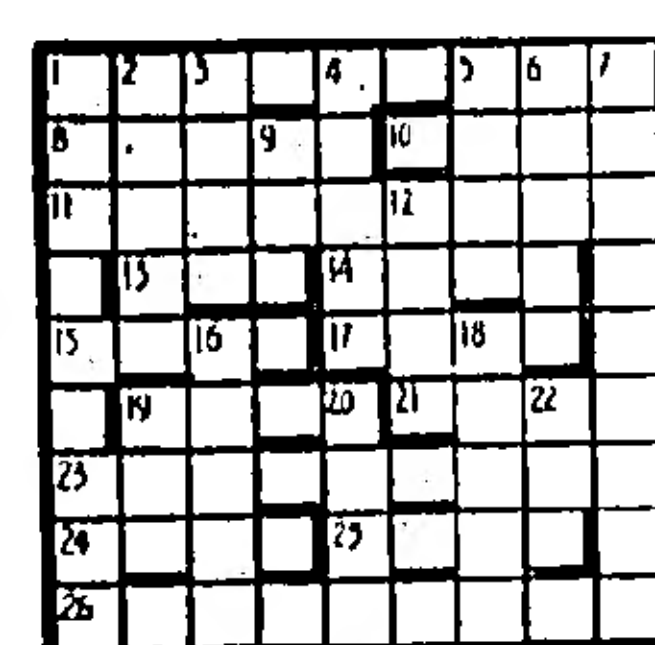
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 23)—Take a positive and aggressive position in current affairs. See that everything is straightened out as you want it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—Relax tensions today. Make sure that any newly offered opportunity is exactly what you want. Otherwise refuse it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—This is a good enough day. You can make it what you wish. Blame yourself, not your stars, if you fail.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Best to stick closely to routine. Don't act on impulse, since the wrong move now could prove most unfortunate.

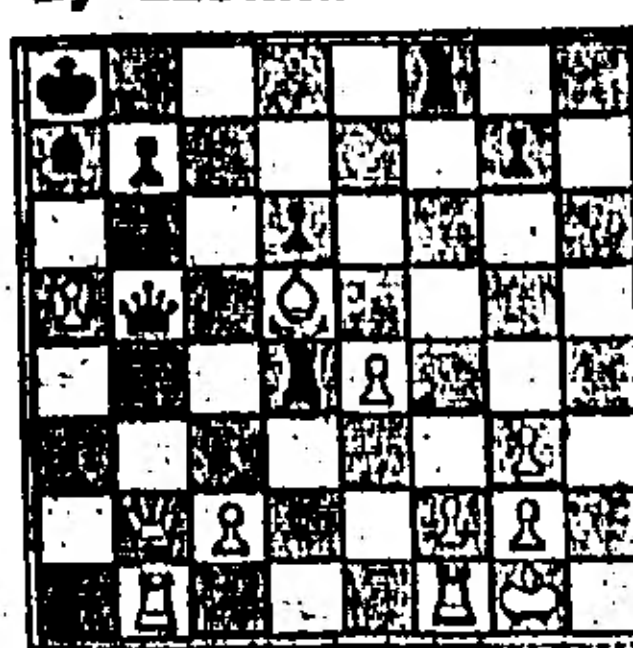
CROSSWORD



- Across
- Old weapon. (6-4)
 - Modern word. (15)
 - Crane. (4)
 - Disgusting. (6)
 - River in Scotland. (3)
 - Prescribed amount. (4)
 - Son of Isaac. (4)
 - Kind of gun. (4)
 - Crash. (4)
 - Refreshment place. (4-5)
 - Overseas. (4)
 - Unpleasant. (4)
 - Digs up. (6)
- Down
- Having the cars out. (4-5)
 - Pisces. (6)
 - Dyno-bulder. (4)
 - Unpleasant. (4)
 - Horrible lady. (4)
 - Interviewed. (6)
 - Examples. (4)
 - Drum beat. (4)
 - Drunkards. (4)
 - East to. (4)
 - Another. (6)
 - The sun. (4)
 - Now's part. (4)
 - Don't. (4)

CHESS

By LEONARD BARDEN



From actual play: Black to move, and win.

London Express Service

JACOBY ON BRIDGE

North Bids 7 With Fortitude

By OSWALD JACOBY

TODAY's hand proves nothing except that spades are a mighty nice suit.

West's choice of a one-club opening was normal. He had a little too much in high cards for a preemptive bid. North's four of spades was also normal. He had a real freak hand and might well romp home with four spades even if South showed up with a bust.

East considered an immediate jump to seven clubs but restrained himself for osh in on a slam bonus and did not want North and South defending at seven spades. Hence, East bid six clubs only.

South did not really expect to make six spades but knew his

NORTH		25	
♠ A J 10 5 4 3 2			
♥ 7 6 5 4 3 2			
♦ None			
♣ None			
WEST (D)	EAST		
♠ None	♠ None		
♥ Q 9	♥ A K J 10 8		
♦ K Q 10 6	♦ A J 4 2		
♣ A J 10 9 5 3 2	♣ K Q 7 4		
SOUTH			
♠ K Q 8 7 6			
♥ None			
♦ 8 7 5 3			
♣ 8 6			
Both vulnerable			
West	North	East	South
1 ♣	4 ♠	6 ♣	6 ♣
Pass	Pass	7 ♣	Double
Redbl.	7 ♣	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		
Opening lead—♥ K			

partner couldn't be hurt at that contract and South certainly thought that East and West could make their six clubs.

West also did not think that six spades could make but he was willing to have his partner bid the grand slam. Hence, his pass to six spades. East obliged with the grand slam bid and at this point South doubled.

South's double was a request to his partner for an unusual lead. South was not sure of his position in current affairs. See that everything is straightened out as you want it.

West did not know what was going on exactly but thought a redouble was in order.

Now North did a lot of thinking. What was his partner's double based on? Was it an ace? Not likely in view of the opponents' bidding. Could it be a void suit? Could it be a void heart suit? Yes, in all probability.

In that case North could see the spade grand slam and took his partner's double of seven clubs out to seven spades.

CARD SERVICE

Q—The bidding has been:
South West North East
1♣ Double Redbl.
2♣ 2♠ Double Pass
You, South, hold:
♠ A65 ♣ KQ8764 ♣ K94
What do you do?
A—Pass. You have told your partner that you are interested in a double of a low contract. He has heard you.

TODAY'S QUESTION
You hold the same hand. Instead of doubling two spades your partner has bid four diamonds. What do you do now?

Answer Tomorrow

BY THE WAY
by Beachcomber

IT is a mistake to expect anything but fish and other marine personnel in an aquarium. A party of tourists from the North of England complained of the dulness of an aquarium they visited. Did they expect bathing beauties in the tanks?

For one who is not interested in marine life, an aquarium has nothing to offer, though the dreary round was varied once at Brighton, when it was found that some saucy fellow had brought in an enormous tank containing a rhinoceros and labelled "Japanese mackerel."

A friendly atmosphere

THERE are signs that formal behaviour on the concert platform is giving place to a more friendly approach to the audience. At the Albert Hall recently a singer talked and joked with the audience, who, losing their shyness, shouted back. I hope this kind of thing will spread to opera. Most audiences today would respond warmly to an invitation to join in an aria, especially if the words were printed on the backcloth. And it would be fun to hear the diva say, at the end of

a love duet, "Of course we were only pretending"; or after a sustained high note, "How's that for sound, folks?"; or to see the tenor jerk his thumb at the soprano, and hear him say, "I don't know how that sounded to you people, but it's pretty well defended me," as he staggered back in mock alarm.

Tra-la-la

A PROFESSOR of Social Geography, in the course of some remarks about "selling scenery," said: "We ought to build an Ocean Boulevard around Devon and Cornwall, with motels and parking points for viewing the scenery." I would go further, and have roving, uniformed guides in smart cars. Loud-speakers on the cars, and also at beauty spots, would draw attention to the scenery, and helicopters would scatter leaflets all over the two counties, in order to overcome the sales-resistance of staid tourists. In every motel a tourist official would give running commentaries on the view from the windows, and there would be lectures on how to look at scenery. Let Butliver Ltd. Organise Your Holiday.

WOMANSENSE

LADY SPRING 1958



- HARDY AMIES:** This designer's "Lady Spring 1958" will wear an elegant little suit in a basket weave suiting such as this one with a straight loose back and the fronts curved in to flatter the bustline. The wide-collared jacket fastens at the side, ties replacing buttons. Her short skirt has trouser pleats in front and in the hollow of her back, and tapers to the hem.
- JOHN CAVANAGH:** The back line has evolved into something of extreme elegance and sophistication, as is indicated by this simple day dress shadow-fitted to the body by being cut on the cross, which is revealed only in movement. The material chosen, a beige, grey and white pincheck worsted (Dumas and Maury), holds the line and by the use of bands of the material, supplies all necessary trimming.
- CHARLES CREED:** Jumper tops, which are a fashion of the moment, require the pose of a smart woman to prevent their resemblance to a mere "sloppy Joe". Made in a sand-colored Linton tweed, picking up the colour of the Linton tweed check skirt and matching topcoat, the outfit has immediate sophistication.
- NORMAN HARTNELL:** The real "feminine" look, as befits a royal dressmaker, is seen in the line handwork and craftsmanship of this house. Every line of a model has a logical meaning. So the cleverly contrived collar of this jacket is absorbed into back fullness held in each side at the seams. The skirt is slim but not too short. One of the popular canvas weave woolsens is used.
- LACHASSE:** A tiny shepherd check in navy and white is cleverly used to give added interest to this longer-jacketed suit with its sailor collar. The curved back is held by a slotted band of the material used diagonally. A diagonal band from waist to hem trims the skirt which is longer, reaching almost to mid-calf.

Keep In Trim

By Ida Joan Kain

TO LOOK YOUNGER—STREAMLINE

THE MIDDLE MEASUREMENT

EXERCISE is the streamlining measure by which you can change from a size 18½ to an 18 diminutive, or from any half size to a regular size. Today's exercise programme is designed to help you slim 2½ inches off the waist; 3 inches off the abdomen; and 2 inches off the hips.

To reduce the 12 pounds that stand between you and the smaller size, keep your calories at 1,600 a day, all in protective foods—lean meat, fish or fowl; eggs, skim milk or buttermilk; cottage cheese, green leafy and yellow vegetables and fruits. Have 2 thin slices of bread a day, and ½ a potato. Eat breakfast, including an egg, stop exercising, eat dinner and cut fats all along the line.

Now for the slimming-toning exercises... for waist and stomach.

Position: Stand on knees, then simply sit back on heels. Have arms outstretched at shoulder level. Pull firmly up and in with abdominal muscles, and hold this contraction throughout exercise movement.

Movement: Bend slowly side-

wards to the right, aiming to touch fingers of right hand to right leg at right, and at same time reach out with left hand, stretching clear to fingertips.

The rhythm is bend, s-l-e-e-c-h, hold 4-1-1-m. Make it slow and slithering.

Come back to position, bend to the left side and continue for six counts.

The second exercise reaches stomach and hip muscles...

Position: Lie on back, left knee bent, right leg straight down, arms out at sides, forearm back. (The arm position straightens shoulders.)

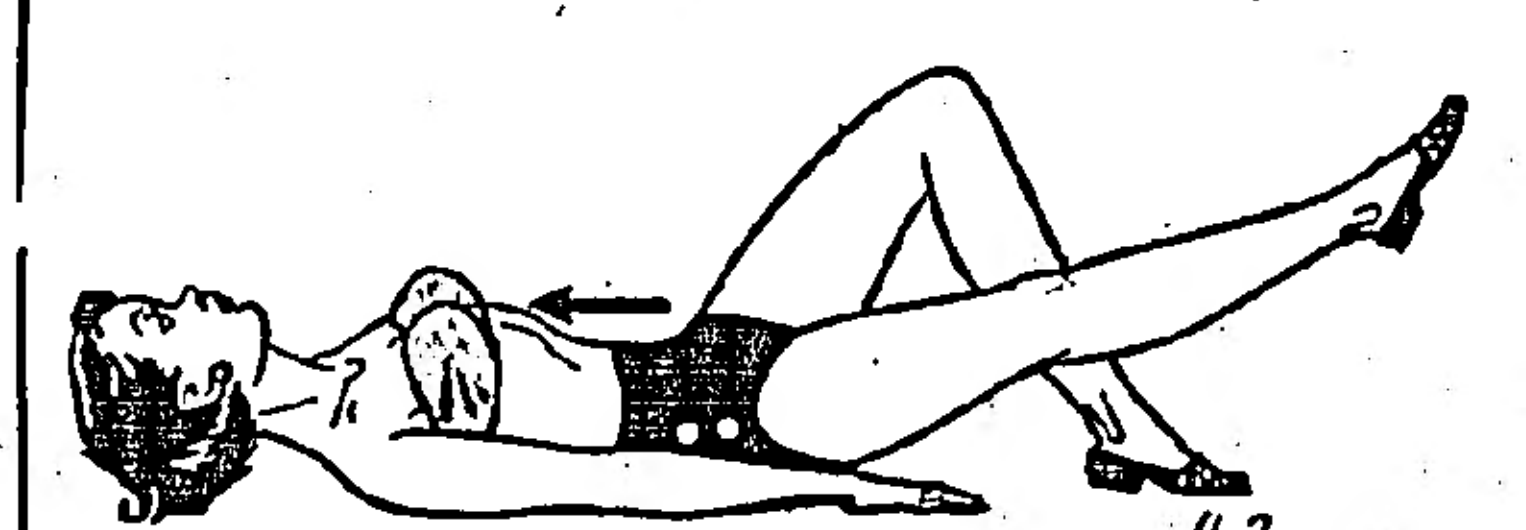
Movement: Swing right leg downward as far as it will go, then back to position, and swing leg straight up to right angle and s-l-o-w-l-y lower leg to floor. Swing again, about six times. Bend right knee and swing with left leg.

Now swing for the hips, combining swinging with holding.

Position: Lying on side, palm of hand braced on floor for support.

Movement: Swing top leg forward freely, then swing away back and again forward and back. On the second back swing, h-o-l-d. The rhythm is swing, swing, swing, h-o-l-d. Repeat six complete times, then change sides and swing with the other leg.

Instead of complaining that the half size fashions are matronly, get busy and alter your measurements as you reduce a dozen pounds. You'll be so happy that you did!



Tones abdomen and strengthens back

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Before washing heavily soiled work or play clothes soak for 10 to 15 minutes in hot soapy water to which half a cup of ammonia has been added.

Iron rays on the wrong side whenever possible. If you do iron them on the right side, use a press cloth and a well padded board.

Shower curtains need frequent cleaning.

Wash them in the bath tub, swishing them up and down in a tubful of suds, then in clean water. Hang back on shower

bar, spreading them out to dry. Never square, wring or twist shower curtains of any crisp material, such as, for instance, water-repellent taffeta, or deep surface creases may mar their appearance.

Wash gloves before they become too soiled, squeezing them gently through lukewarm soap-suds. Rinse thoroughly. Blot in a towel. Ease them into shape and place them flat to dry.

Treated properly, fabric gloves will keep their size and shape indefinitely.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

A Remarkable Thing

—Three Great Animals Envied A Little Bird—

By MAX TRELL

"IT's a pretty remarkable thing," Chirpie Sparrow was saying.

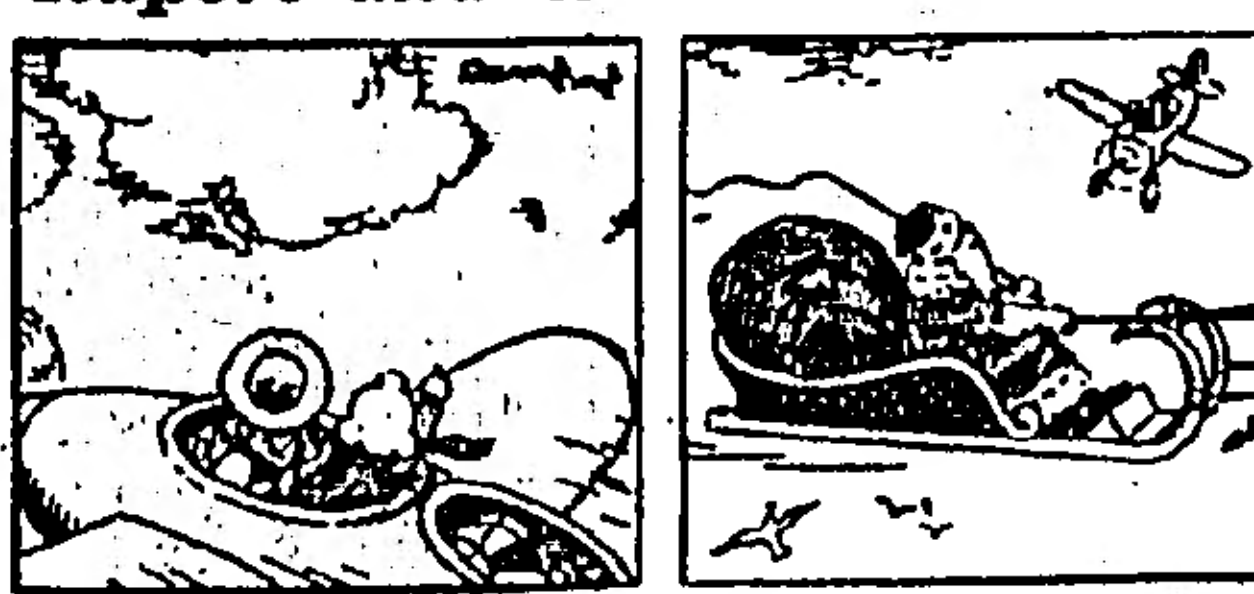
Knaft, the Shadow Boy with the Turned-About Name, and Teddy, the Stuffed Bear, who were standing inside the room, went up to the window and saw a bit of a sight-seeing tour.

"What I did," Chirpie continued, "was to fly to the other side of town where the river flows. Then I flew across the river."

Interesting Things

"I looked down and saw quite a number of interesting things. I saw automobiles rolling along the streets. I saw boats puffing up and down the river. I saw gulls. And, finally, after crossing the river, I looked down and saw that I was flying over a park. That was the Zoo!" said Chirpie. "Right you are," said Knaft. "It was the Zoo all right."

Rupert and the Lost List—36



Rupert takes some time to become used to the speed of the plane. "We should be in Nottingham in no time!" he breathes. "But wait, look up there. Who's that? Surely it's Santa Claus himself going the other way. What's he doing? Has he finished his work already?" "No, I guess not," says the Cowboy. "I reckon he's stopping around hoping for some sign of Golly and the rest of us. We'd better make sure he sees me at least." Flanking in a wide curve he drives the plane through and passes Santa Claus from the other side at great speed.

"I flew a bit further over the place and saw some cages. Then I flew down to see who was inside of them."

"Animals were inside them," said Teddy.

Again Chirpie nodded.

Paced Up And Down

"Inside the first cage was a Lion. He was a big, tawny beast and he was pacing up and down, lashing his tail and making roaring noises. I didn't get too near him, mainly because he looked too much like a big Cat. Being a Bird myself, I don't care too much for Cats."

"Nevertheless," said Chirpie, "I bade the Lion a pleasant good morning."

"Good morning, indeed," said the Lion to me, "I don't see anything good about it. I'm stuck in this old cage and I can't get out. It's a good morning to you, though, for you can fly wherever you like."

"Then I flew to the next cage," said Chirpie, "and there I saw a Tiger. He was almost as big as the Lion and he looked just as angry."

"Good morning," I said as cheerfully as I could.

Terrible Snarl

He let out a terrible snarl.

"It's a bad morning, that's bird like me just because I can't fly. Get me out of this cage!" said the Tiger. "Or better yet, find me a pair of wings like you have so that I can fly away."



"I can't get out of this cage," the Lion told Chirpie.

yet, find me a pair of wings like you have so that I can fly away. "In the third cage," said Chirpie, "I found an enormous Elephant. He wasn't angry like the Lion and Tiger. He just stood there sadly, swinging his big trunk back and forth like the pendulum of a clock."

"If only I was as small as you, Little Bird," said Chirpie. "I found an enormous Elephant. He wasn't angry like the Lion and Tiger. He just stood there sadly, swinging his big trunk back and forth like the pendulum of a clock."

"So," said Chirpie to Knaft and Teddy, "I think it's a remarkable thing that three great Animals like a Lion, a Tiger and an Elephant should envy a little bird like me just because I can't fly. wherever I please and need no live in a cage."

TAIWANESE BEAT PRESIDENT'S XV 29-0

PAKISTAN 194 RUNS AHEAD OF WEST INDIES IN FOURTH TEST

Georgetown, Mar. 17. Pakistan, 194 runs ahead of West Indies with five second innings wickets left, look to their captain Abdul Kardar and Wazir Mohammad to strengthen their position in the fourth Test here tomorrow.

West Indies, who need only draw this match to win the five game series, snatched a two run lead on first innings by scoring 410 in reply to Pakistan's 408.

British Columbia Centennial Games On June 6-7

London, Mar. 17. Derek Robinson, the world's fastest miller, is included in a team of four which the British Amateur Athletics Board are sending to the British Columbia Centennial Games at Vancouver on June 6-7.

Robinson is nominated for the mile event and, like George Knight, who is named for the three miles event, must have a chance of winning his race.

The team is completed by J. D. Wright (440 Yards) and N. A. Farwell (400 Yards and 800 Yards). Farwell reached the final of the Olympic 800 Metres at Melbourne in 1956 while Wright is a keen, consistent athlete.

The British contingent will meet strong opposition for in addition to Canadian competitors, leading American athletes as well as continental ones—namely a team from Poland—are expected to take part in the Games.

Announcing the team to take the British Amateur Athletics Board stated that the nomination of the four British athletes was "subject to their fitness at the time of departure."—China Mail Special.

Basilio-Robinson Title Bout On March 25

New York, Mar. 17. World Middleweight Boxing Champion Carmen Basilio told the press here that he was confident of his chances in winning his forthcoming title bout with challenger and former titleholder Sugar Ray Robinson on March 25.

Basilio beat Robinson last year. He said that his biggest handicap was Robinson's height. He remarked, "I've got to aim my blows upwards and that weakens them."

He said he had learned a lot about Robinson's way of boxing. Basilio admitted that Robinson also knew more about his style since the last time they fought. "But the difference between us is that I've beaten him once," Basilio said.—France-Press.

British Boxer Leaves Hospital After 193 Days In A Coma

London, Mar. 17. British bantamweight boxer Jackie Tiller, who has been in a coma for 193 days since he was knocked out in May during a fight in Doncaster, today left Wilington Hospital to continue his recovery at home.

The former 23-year-old boxer has never completely recovered consciousness after the tragic knockout which put an end to his boxing career.

At present, he is half-paralyzed and in a state of semi-consciousness. His parents feel that the atmosphere in his own home will help him to make further progress.—France-Press.

Hashim Khan To Defend Scottish Squash Title

Edinburgh, Mar. 17. The Pakistani squash rackets star, Hashim Khan, will defend his Scottish Open Championship title here tomorrow night against a countryman, Mohibul Khan.

In today's semi-finals Hashim Khan beat another Pakistani, Yusuf Khan 8-10, 9-5, 9-6, 9-6 and Mohibul Khan beat Jamil Din of India, professional coach at Edinburgh Sports Club 9-5, 9-5, 8-10, 9-4.—United Press.

Georgetown, Mar. 17.

Pakistan, 194 runs ahead of West Indies with five second innings wickets left, look to their captain Abdul Kardar and Wazir Mohammad to strengthen their position in the fourth Test here tomorrow.

West Indies, who need only draw this match to win the five game series, snatched a two run lead on first innings by scoring 410 in reply to Pakistan's 408.

Pakistan were 194 for five at the close of the fourth day's play today. The match ends on Wednesday.

Kardar joined Wazir with the score 130 for five when Pakistan seemed likely to dismiss the early batsmen for moderate total. But they fought stoutly and at the close had put on 88 in 75 minutes in an unbeaten sixth wicket stand.

Wazir is 54 not out and Kardar is not out 35. Kardar, the more aggressive, has hit six fours.

Keen Fielding

A slow outfield caused by heavy weekend rain and keen fielding resulted in only 215 runs being scored in the day's play.

Before Wazir and Kardar came together Pakistan were in trouble against spin bowlers Gibbs and C. S. Smith who both flighted the ball cunningly and kept a good length.

Imtiaz Ahmad, Saeed Ahmad—who hit a century in the first innings—and Hanif Mohammad were all out cheaply.

But Hanif, caught when he had made 14, stayed long enough to reach his 1,000 runs for the tour.

Only Alim-Ud-Din, who opened with Imtiaz, had looked comfortable among the batsmen. He had made 41 and was fourth out at 102.

West Indies who resumed today at 391 for eight were all out for 410 after the ninth wicket.

Gibbs and Roy Gilchrist had added 10 in nearly as many minutes.

Gilchrist fell to 10-year-old leg spin bowler Nasirul Gani who finished with five for 110.—Reuters.

Hungarian Soccer Federation Bans All Trips Abroad

Budapest, Mar. 17. The Hungarian Soccer Federation decided today to ban all trips abroad by Hungarian teams until April 13 so as to facilitate Hungarian preparation for the World Championships in Sweden in June.

The Federation specially expressed, however, the Budapest "Vasas" squad which is scheduled to play a European Cup match against "Real Madrid" on April 2 in Madrid.

The Hungarian Championships will be adjourned on April 13 until after the World Cup finals.

The Hungarian team will play Yugoslavia on April 20 and as yet unpicked team on April 27 in its last two games before leaving for Sweden on May 28.—France-Press.

A New Indoor 3,000 M Record By E. German

Berlin, Mar. 17. Friedrich Janke of East Germany set up a new record for the indoor 3,000 metres when he clocked eight minutes 9.4 seconds during an athletic meeting in East Berlin yesterday, the East German ADN Agency reported today.

The previous best for the event was eight minutes 16.8 seconds, set up by East German Klaus Richtzenhain, second in the 1,500 metres at the Melbourne Olympic Games.—France-Press.

SCOTTISH CUP SEMI-FINALS DRAW

London, Mar. 17. The draw for the Scottish Cup semi-finals on April 6 resulted today as follows:

Motherwell v Clyde, to be played at Celtic Park, Glasgow. Rangers v Hibernians, at Hampden Park, Glasgow.—Reuters.

"Possibles" Do Well In Colony Trial

By "PAK LO"

Yesterday evening the touring Taiwanese XV thrashed the HKRU President's XV by the comfortable score of 29 points (4 goals, 3 tries) to nil, and proved if proof was needed that they were fit to play the Colony XV on Wednesday, instead of a Services XV which will have no member of the Colony team in it.

If this game against the Services is played the Taiwanese will again easily emerge the victors.

The excuse given by the Colony selectors for not playing the Colony XV against the Taiwanese is that they are afraid of injuries to the Colony XV. Now this is always a possibility, but it is fair to these keen visitors, who have shown their undoubted ability in their two matches here, to play against them on Wednesday a XV which is neither in fact good nor has ever played together as a XV?

Instead the selectors should put the Colony XV against the Taiwanese and let the Colony show what they can do. Whether they beat the Taiwanese or not is immaterial, but at least the Taiwanese will have the pleasure of playing against the full Colony XV, and will then be better able to judge their own abilities.

After last night's final trial it was all too obvious that injuries would not greatly affect the Colony XV for many of the Rest players were far better than the Colony XV and the fact that the Colony only won by 6 points (2 tries) to 5 points (1 goal) speaks for itself.

Yesterday evening showed that with a Chinese XV in action there is an appeal to their own race for last night's crowd for the first game was well sprinkled with Chinese spectators. Think then what a boost for the game this Taiwanese XV is offering, for if local Chinese can be interested in the game, then perhaps they too can be persuaded to play, or if not to play then to watch.

That the Chinese would turn out in big numbers to watch Taiwan play the Colony I have little doubt, but I sincerely doubt whether they will show the same interest in a Taiwan XV versus a Services XV.

Taiwan v HKRU

The Taiwanese never looked like losing this game from the first whistle, for they were faster, fitter, and made much more use of their three forwards.

They had the advantage of almost continual possession of the ball, for they outthanked the President's pack, and their jumping in the lineouts was beautifully timed to collect the ball which was thrown in to the lineouts hard and fast.

The Taiwan hooker, Chung Shuang-hsing, shone particularly in the lineouts and the President's pack had no one to match him. Chung Ko-hsin in the three showed an almost phenomenal burst of speed which completely dazzled the President's backs, and with Hsien-min fumbling his way through the game the defence was woefully weak.

This was in direct contrast to Chung Kuen-hsi, the Taiwan full back whose positioning and touch kicking were extremely good.

For the President's XV Hunter was without doubt the star, but Lloyd, until his injury sent him off the field, somehow did not manage to link up well with Hunter, all too many of his passes going astray. Kilvert also shone for the President's.

Canadian Ice Hockey Team Lose In Europe

London, Mar. 17. Canada's victorious ice hockey team, the Whittys Dunlops, lost their first match in Europe when they were beaten 6-2 here tonight by Wembley Lions, the British League Champions.

The Canadians had gone 22 games in Europe without defeat and had conceded only six goals throughout the recent World Championships in Oslo. Tonight they did not live up to their reputation.

Wembley built up a 4-2 lead in the first period, and scored two more goals in the second. The Dunlops improved to hit two goals in the final session but they left their rally too late.—Reuters.

ICE HOCKEY

Moscow, Mar. 17. The Soviet Union ice hockey team beat the touring United States side 5-3 here today, according to Tass, the Soviet news agency.—Reuters.

ROUND THE STABLES

MAJOR PORTION CAN MEET FRENCH CHALLENGE

By JAMES PARK

No professional jump jockey has trained a classic winner in my time. So it will be a feather in the cap of trainer Ted Lender if Major Portion wins the 2,000 Guineas on May 1. Lender was one of the most successful cross-country riders of his day and crowned a notable career when he rode Sprig to victory in the 1927 Grand National. It was a family affair as the winner was trained by the jockey's father.

Ted Lender is now to all intents and purposes private trainer to Mr. H. J. ("Jim") Joel, at Section Lodge, Newmarket. His only other owner is Mr. Anthony de Rothschild, who has staged a minor comeback after a long absence and has two horses in training. At present joint favourite for the first of the season's classic races, I can give the assurance that Mr. "Jim" Joel's Major Portion will be a danger to the best France can send over.

Unbeaten

I was rather anxious to see how this unbeaten colt had progressed since his two-year-old days. As he walked round the paddock before the Middle Park Stakes, Neptune II and Kelly looked big enough to carry him in the race itself. Major Portion beat Neptune II by half a length, and a little cleverly in my opinion, with Kelly another two lengths away.

Yet the thought remained that the son of Court Martial was not developed to the same extent as some of his more generously proportioned rivals. Now that I have seen him I have no doubts on that point. At 15 hands, 2½ inches the colt is an inch taller than was Hyperion when he won the Derby. Major Portion has filled out and put on weight in the right places and is a beautifully compact colt of excellent quality.

Balance

There may be bigger rivals in the Guineas field but none will outshine him for balance and symmetry. Already the colt carries almost a summer sheen on his coat and while he may not have an outburst before the classic he will be really fit. The Court Martial breed does not require a strong preparation and that is why the trainer is of the opinion that brought out fresh and well the colt should be capable of giving his true form without a preliminary outing.

I am, in every respect, thoroughly pleased with Mr. Joel's colt and should say he has at least made normal progress since his two-year-old days.

May Develop

There will be other winners among the three-year-olds in the field but none will achieve the brilliance of Major Portion. There is perhaps an outside chance that Rugosa may develop into a candidate for Derby honours.

That might be stretching the bow too far, but this fine upstanding colt, still something of an unknown quantity, has tremendous power and scope.

House of Lords is steadily gaining full strength but has too much to find before he could be rated in the top class. That he will win races I have no doubt.

All the three-year-old fillies are backward in their coat but Billiard, Chandelier and Mr. Anthony de Rothschild's Jinnivah can be noted as certain winners when they strike form.

On the whole, I like the fillies better than the colts in the two-year-old division. Crystal Palace (by Solar Elipper), Persian Beauty (by Tulwar and a half sister to Court Martial), Scudde Place (by Signal Light), and Countess (by Court Martial) all take the eye.

Golden Crown is the first of Aureole's stock I have seen. A beautiful golden chestnut, he has all the makings of a racehorse. Foreign Order should be an early winner and later on we

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Only One Charge In French Team Against Wales

Paris, Mar. 17. The French Rugby Union team to meet Wales in Cardiff on March 20 shows one change from the side which beat the Australian Wallabies 19-0 here on March 9.

Pierre Danos, who played against England on March 1, has recovered from an injury sustained in the match, and is preferred to Pierre Lacroix at scrum half.

The team is: Michel Vannier (Racing Club); Pierre Tarricau, Jean Martin, Maurice Prat and Henri Rancoule (all Lourdes); Antoine Labazuy (Lourdes); Pierre Danos (Toulon); Aldo Quaglio (Mazamet); Robert Vidier (Gentland); Alfred Roques (Cahors); Michel Celary (Blarritz); Captain, Lucien Mias (Mazamet); Henri Domec (Lourdes); Jean Barthe (Lourdes); Jean Crauste (Racing Club).

Reserves: Jean Carriere, Pierre Lacroix, Amelou, Emenchoud, Arnaud, Marquessaz, —China Mail Special.

Hogan Bassey Modestly Disclaims He Put Nigeria On The Map

Santa Monica, Mar. 17. A little former dock worker whose real name is Odon Bassey Asuque, but who is better known to boxing fans as Hogan (Kid) Bassey, World's Featherweight Champion, modestly disclaims that he "put Nigeria on the map."

But to the sports fans, at least, Nigeria and Bassey are synonymous.

And Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, recognised the fact last New Year's Day by making Bassey a Member of the Order of the British Empire.

The 26-year-old Bassey defends his title on April 1 in Los Angeles against free-swinging, hard-punching Ricardo (Fajardo) Moreno of Mexico. If the air of confidence that prevails in Bassey's camp is not misplaced, the crown on Bassey's head rests there securely.

For Bassey has demonstrated in a career in the ring dating back to 1949 that he is a boxer who combines both ring skill and a punch. And his appearance against Moreno is not his American debut. Bassey displayed his wares for the first time in the US 11 months ago when he defeated Miguel Berries at Washington, DC, to win the right for a title bout against Cherif Hamla at Paris last June 24, scoring a 10th round knockout.

Between Workouts "I learned to box while I was going to school in Lagos—the capital of Nigeria," Bassey explained as he rested between workouts at the Ocean Park Arena where he is training for the Moroccan bout.

"I was sixteen years old at the time but I showed a flare for fighting and we had some ex-Army men who knew something about boxing and taught me well."

Bassey, who stands about five feet tall, grinned as he recalled his early bouts in which he made up with willingness his lack of skill.

"I would not say I was a polished boxer from the day I stepped into the ring," Bassey added. "But I was agile and I learned fast."—United Press.

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THE GAMBOLS

YOU HAVE TO COME ON YOUR OWN NEXT WEEK SO WATCH WHICH ROAD WE TAKE



IT'S EASY TO REMEMBER

IT'S A LEFT TURN RIGHT BUT SUPPOSE WE'RE NOT STANDING THERE NEXT WEEK



BY BARRY APPLEBY

IT'S A LEFT TURN RIGHT BUT SUPPOSE WE'RE NOT STANDING THERE NEXT WEEK



put Gas in your house

put Gas in your house



ASIAN GAMES

Japanese And P.I. Swimmers Will Dominate The Rivalry

Manila, Mar. 18. Japan and the Philippines will dominate the rivalry in the coming Asian Games swimming competitions, coach Marcelino Natividad of the Philippine swimming team predicted yesterday.

He forecast that Freddie Elizalde, butterfly stroke performer, would place first or second in the 200-metre event. Bana Salanti and Amaplo Lozano, he added, would finish among the first three in the long distance swims while 100-metre free-styler Dakuila Arabani "may pull a surprise."

Among the women swimmers, Gertrude Lozano, Haydee Coloso-Espino and Jocelyn Von Giese will be the top contenders in Tokyo, Natividad said. Espino and Von Giese defeated Japan's best in the second Asian Games here in 1954.—France-Press.

Softball Junior League Final Standings

The following are the Hongkong Softball Association Junior League final standings:

	P	W	L	Points
Seminoles	16	14	2	875
Cheyennes	16	13	3	813
P. I. Dodgers	16	12	4	750
Comets	16	10	6	625
University of HK	16	8	8	500
Austers	16	6	10	375
War Eagles	16	6	10	375
Wah Ying	16	3	13	188
South China	16	0	16	000

DRAWN TEST

Lagos, Mar. 17. Nigeria and Ghana drew their three-day cricket "test" which ended here today. With their last pair together, Nigeria were 10 runs short of victory, when stumps were drawn. Final scores: Nigeria 123 and 222 for nine; Ghana 160 and 194.—China Mail Special.

THE BATTLE OF SWEDEN

Nominate YOUR Hongkong Footballer Of The Year

Members of the public are invited to nominate Hongkong's Footballer of the Year for the current season.

It is a popularity poll organised by the China Mail, and nomination coupons will be accepted until the closing date to be announced later.

The two qualifications for nomination are:

- (1) Footballing prowess.
- (2) Sportsmanship on the field of play.

Nominations should be addressed to the Editor, China Mail, Wyndham Street.

To the Editor, China Mail, My nomination for Hongkong's Footballer of the Year, taking into account his playing ability and his sportsmanship on the field of play is:

of the Club.

(Signed)

Sports Diary

TODAY

HKFA Council Meeting, Sports Road, 5.45 p.m.
Badminton: Colony Senior Championships: Ladies' Doubles, Mixed Doubles, Men's Doubles, KCC, 7.30 p.m. Inter-collegiate: Badminton: KC v SSC, SM "A" v PKA, WY v S.P. (at Grantham Training College, 6 p.m.)

TOMORROW

Badminton: Colony Senior Championships: Men's Singles, Mixed Doubles, Netball 7.30 p.m.

Tax Reductions For Illegal Bookmakers

Washington, Mar. 17. The United States Supreme Court ruled today that bookmakers could deduct expenses from their income tax, even if their business was illegal. It upheld a decision by a court in Chicago that three local bookmakers should be allowed tax reductions for rent and wages. Bookmaking is illegal in Illinois and most other states.—China Mail Special.

Ill-Advised Criticism Could Harm Our World Cup Hopes

Says TOM FINNEY

If you read sports pages closely you will have noticed recently an increasing number of paragraphs showing just how seriously our rivals for the World Cup are preparing for the Battle of Sweden.

Or even if you are only a casual reader, you must have seen the increasing criticism of our own methods.

"Our men aren't playing or training together enough... we're hardly making any attempt to get them together for any length of time... we just shan't stand a chance"... and so on. That's how the criticism goes. You've read it, I've heard it. And I welcome this opportunity of hitting back and saying: it's NONSENSE.

I agree right away that, unless you are familiar with the respective soccer set-ups in rival countries, it might be worrying to hear this sort of information.

AUSTRIA are gathering their players together for weeks of rehearsing the Hungarian system of play. BRAZIL will reach the climax of their team's preparations with six international matches.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA have been sending three representative teams abroad to make sure no possible World Cup player is overlooked.

GERMANY are calling together teams of "probables" and "possibles" every fortnight for special training.

HUNGARY gathered their international together for mid-winter training, and will wreck their own late-season league programme by calling them away from their individual clubs again.

And very much the same kind of stories come from such widespread countries as ITALY, MEXICO (where transfers of players to foreign clubs have been banned), RUSSIA, YUGO SLAVIA and SWEDEN (who, despite the fact that no one but fellow Swedes gives them a chance, are building up their players' stamina with long courses of winter sports).

What, meanwhile, is ENGLAND doing? We, apparently, are carrying on with our League and Cup programmes as if the World Cup were three years, not three months, away.

Only the future can tell how we will fare in Sweden. But, even from this distance, I would say that if we don't win, or even do as well as you hoped, it will not be because of incompetent training schedules. So many of England's critics have completely overlooked the vital point: that no other international in the world play as much football during a season as British internationals.

Sixty Times

For our leading players—men who, for example, have been engaged in the League, FA Cup, European Cup, international matches, representative games, plus additional engagements like floodlight fixtures—it is by no means unusual to make well over 60 appearances a season.

And, contrary to the opinions of quite a section of our non-sports-playing public, the physical and mental strain of such a programme is tremendous.

If the English FA were to insist that between 20 and 30 of our top players met for mid-week practices—with all the travelling it would entail—in

addition to their existing commitments, I can tell you what would happen: they would crack.

The Business

They would quite certainly arrive in Sweden so stale that they'd feel sick as soon as they saw a football.

You may ask: well, why don't we insist that the English League clubs release these players and let them band together in one World Cup preparation squad NOW?

I agree that this sounds the perfect solution. But in my view it would be quite morally wrong. Remember that football clubs are run as a business. If they do not succeed as such, they go out of existence.

The clubs—Workington and Wrexham just as much as Wolves and West Bromwich Albion—are the businesses which find players, train them, provide them with first class medical attention and a good livelihood.

The Customers

They do it so that they may win success in the League or the Cup. And if they can't do this they at least strive to provide as high class soccer as possible for their customers.

Imagine these last vital weeks of the season without 20 or 30 star players. Promotion struggles would become a farce; dozens of matches would become colourless—and you could hardly blame clubs if prospective English players suddenly became "off colour" when an international selector was watching.

Imagine Fulham and Blackburn battling for the possibility of an all-Second Division Wembley final without Johnny Haynes and Bryan Douglas. It's stupid, isn't it?

This, of course, doesn't mean I believe we should struggle over to Sweden looking as though we've just arrived for a holiday. But I do feel that, in view of all the difficulties, our present ideas of preparation are based on common sense.

The tragic Munich affair gave England problems they never thought would exist. But we shall have chances to iron out the major problems before the season ends.

Then we have three international matches during May in which to try out what will almost certainly be our final team: one match at Wembley (most probably against Portugal), another against Yugoslavia in Belgrade and finally a vital one against Russia in Moscow.

This, plus practice sessions and the chance for the team to settle down together as both friends and footballers, is quite sufficient.

This is not a Finney forecast that England will win the World Cup. But it is a plea to stop throwing spanners into the works with criticism that just isn't based on reason. (London Express Service).

Amateur Boxer Dies After Fight

Albany, N.Y., Mar. 17. A 21-year-old amateur boxer died here today from injuries received when he was knocked out in the final round of a three-round bout last Saturday. The victim, James Porlor, was knocked out by a punch to the jaw from his opponent, Willie Egan. Porlor was carried unconscious to the hospital where he died today.—France-Press.

SCRATCHED

London, Mar. 17. Kertin was officially scratched from the Grand National Sleepchase, at 1145 GMT today.—Reuters.



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POPULAR PUBLICATIONS

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Chinese Croods & Customs Vol. II	18.00
Chinese Croods & Customs Vol. III	18.00
Baby Book	25.00
Hongkong Birds (Herklots)	35.00
Coronation Glory	7.50
King George VI	7.50
It's Fun Finding Out — 2nd series (Bernard Wickstead)	5.00
Express Annual (1957)	10.00
Rupert Annual 1957-8	4.50
Rupert Magazines	1.00
Ten Points About Pearls	1.50
Points on Judging Jade	1.50
Outline Relief Map of China	.30
" " Asia	.30
" " S.E. Asia	.30
Giles Annual (1957)	5.00
Hong Kong Business Symposium	35.00

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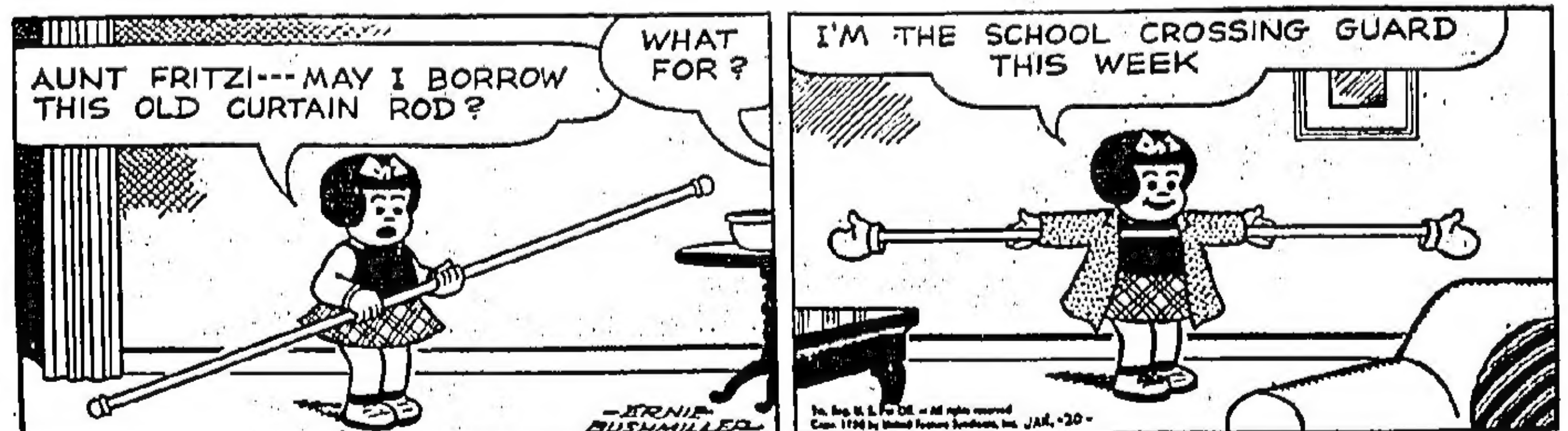
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CHINA MAIL

Page 10

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1958.

SHEAFFER'S
Skrip

US POSITION STRENGTHENED

Launching Of Satellite May Help Preparations For Summit Conference

Washington, Mar. 17. With the launching of the second American "baby moon" today, the position of the United States has been considerably strengthened at a time when preparations for an East-West "summit" conference are entering on their crucial phase, observers in Washington said today.

SYNTHETIC NUTRIENT FOR SPACEMEN Eating & Drinking Unnecessary

Chicago, Mar. 17. Space scientists are trying to develop a "synthetic nutrient" which will make eating, drinking and even breathing unnecessary, it was revealed today.

Dr. James B. Edson, assistant to the Army's Director of Research and Development, said the "nutrient" would be injected into the bloodstream of space pioneers of the future.

SPACE SHIP

He said "the space medicine people" were working toward development of the nutrient.

Dr. Edson, writing in the bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, predicted that man would be able to send an unmanned space ship, possibly equipped with an Atomic bomb, crashing against the moon in four years.

Manned trips to the moon will follow, Dr. Edson said, and space men from earth will be landing on Mars and other planets within 10 to 15 years.

SPACE PIONEERS

The space pioneers will probably make a cave or deep fissure the headquarters of their moon expedition, the scientist said, to gain "protection from hot sun, cold nights, cosmic rays and meteors."

In time, Dr. Edson said, man may be able to live on so many planets that a nuclear war would no longer have the same terrible potential as it does today.—United Press.

Underground Atomic Blast

Washington, Mar. 17. An American underground atomic blast last September took place without any radioactive fallout and holds promise of new techniques in mining and oil extraction, it was officially announced today.

A report on the Nevada explosion, which took place on September 19 nearly 900 feet below the peak of a hill at the atomic testing ground, was prepared by the University of California Radiation Laboratory and issued by the US Atomic Energy Commission.

All harmful radioactive particles resulting from the explosion were imprisoned inside a silica shell some 60 feet in radius which was forced from the molting of 700 tons of rock in the blast.

Queen Mother Welcomed Home

London, Mar. 18. The City of London, with pomp and ceremony, last night welcomed the Queen Mother home from her 35,000-mile Australasian tour.

At a banquet given in her honor at the City's Guildhall, she spoke of her disappointment at being unable to finish her homeward journey in the Queen's Super Constellation which was dogged with mechanical trouble.

The Queen Mother, who was accompanied by Princess Margaret, said that in those lands she had left "a part of my heart."

Her journey had taken her nearly 35,000 miles.

The Queen Mother said she had been impressed "less by the contrasts than by the similarities in the lives of the separated citizens of the Commonwealth."

Though parted by thousands of miles, the British way of life showed everywhere, strong and unmistakable, she said.

Speaking of the ties between Britain and the Commonwealth, the Queen Mother said: "There is another which, I believe, transcends them all: it is an unshakable loyalty to the Crown and I know that it was a symbol of the Crown that I received a loving welcome, which still warms my heart."

Among the 800 guests at the reception were Mr Harold Macmillan, Prime Minister, and Lady Dorothy Macmillan, members of the Parliament and Commonwealth High Commissioners.—Reuter.

The programme is to culminate with the launching of a satellite in the spring of a 21-pound and more highly developed satellite.

The United States now possesses two rockets capable of launching satellites into space—the Navy's Vanguard with its highly complex mechanism which is a purely scientific missile and the Army's Jupiter-C which is strictly a military rocket.—France-Press.

They Prefer Malay To English

Kota Bharu, Mar. 17. Forty-five Malay students at the Pasir Puteh secondary school, 22 miles from here, went on strike today in protest against the use of English as a medium of instruction.

English is still the only medium in Malay secondary schools.

The unrest started when two students approached the headmaster, Mr Yeh Chih-hoe, and demanded that Malay should replace English in all classes in the school.

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SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"Mom, I'm sure this report card would make Dad feel pretty sad—if we don't show it to him we'll do him a big favour!"

Engineer Charged With Disorderly Conduct

Nicholas Nicholas Colan, 53, a Chief Engineer of Butterfield and Swire, was this morning cautioned and bound over in \$100 for one year by Mr A. L. Leathlean at Central Magistracy on two charges of disorderly conduct.

Inspector N. Reynolds said that the defendant boarded a taxi outside a bar in Lockhart Road, at 11.40 p.m. yesterday.

The driver started the taxi and asked the defendant where he wished to go. Defendant replied "the Sky Room Bar." The driver realised that they had just left the bar and immediately turned his taxi round and stopped opposite to the bar.

At this stage, the taxi meter read \$1.50. The driver told the defendant that they were already at the Sky Room Bar. Defendant alighted and took 40 cents and flung it on the seat beside the driver and left. The driver alighted and approached the defendant saying "Not enough. One dollar fifty." Defendant pushed the driver and tried to kick him, Insp Reynolds said.

A European Inspector, who was on plain clothes duty, approached the defendant and found the defendant was under the influence of drink. The Inspector asked him what was the matter. Defendant then shouted at him, saying that he was not going to pay the driver any more as he had only travelled a short distance. At this moment, a Police car arrived, and with the help of other police, defendant was taken to Eastern Police Station.

In the charge room defendant again acted in a violent manner, and shouted loudly. He was later put into the charge room cage, but still he acted violently.

Sub-Inspector M. R. Atkinson then entered the cage and asked the defendant to be quiet. Defendant pushed him on the shoulder and a struggle ensued. Defendant received a blow over his left eye and Inspector Atkinson was grazed on his right knuckle.

Defendant was later sent to Queen Mary Hospital for treatment, Insp Reynolds concluded.

The Agency said it was making the move because of "popular demand."

Shortly after the Explorer satellite was launched, the Agency said, USA posts in Nations were jammed with visitors wanting to know what the man-made moon looked like and how it was launched. One post improvised by making a model of its own and others displayed photographs exhibits.

The Agency decided to ship 104 kits, including 6 1/2-foot fibre glass replicas of the Explorer, to its posts abroad. The kits also contain a picture diagram of the satellite showing interior instruments, a scale drawing of the launching vehicle and a photograph enlargement of the actual launching at Cape Canaveral, Florida.—United Press.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT REDUCES DIVIDEND

Sino-Japanese Price War

A price war between Chinese and Japanese suppliers affected the trade possibilities of the Green Island Cement Co., Ltd during part of last year and consequently the Company's net profit suffered an "unpleasantly large reduction."

This was disclosed at the 8th annual general meeting of the Company held at noon today.

Mr D. Benson, Chairman of the Board of Directors, said he regretted the Board could only recommend a dividend of \$3 per share instead of \$4 as in previous year, and a reduced bonus to staff.

In his report to shareholders, Mr Benson said:

"I am not going to be so rash as to make any prophecies, but raw materials with their cost as substantially less, and will largely offset the lower prices at which we are selling today as compared with last year. At any rate, shareholders will be glad to hear that both locally and in the export market, we have made a favourable start."

The Chairman then proposed the adoption of the statement of accounts and the directors' report, together with the Chairman's statement. Mr B. Wong Tape seconded. The proposal was carried unanimously.

Mr Benson and Mr Li Fook-wo were re-elected Directors, on a proposal by Mr Ng Man-kyung, seconded by Messrs Lowe, Bingham and Matthews were re-appointed Auditors on a proposal by Mr Hudson Chen Wood, seconded by Mr Fung Kwok-sun.

Present at the meeting were: Mr D. Benson (Chairman), Mr H. K. Koo, Mr H. R. Cleland, Mr Li Fook-wo (Directors), Mr J. S. C. Neil (Managing Director), the following shareholders, Messrs Lee Yat-nok, Hudson Chen Wood, B. Wong Tape, Fung Kwok-sun, Kongsan J. Woo, Ng Man-kyung, Lee Shing-chung, and Mr L. W. Gordon (representing the auditors).

Profits for the year in the Hongkong market were therefore disappointing, particularly as our sales—excluding deliveries to the Tai Lam Chung Dam which was practically completed during the year—were higher than the year before.

"In the export market, the story was much the same: intensified competition, which received an additional boost from the reopening of the Suez Canal, reduced profit margins and in Malaya unfortunately a sharp reduction in sales, while there were no sales at all to Korea, which took no less than 10,000 tons in 1956. In our remaining markets in Southeast Asia we sold rather more, but overall there was a net reduction in our overseas shipments of some 20,000 tons."

"A brighter side to our picture was provided by our production figures, which exceeded those of any previous year in the Company's history in the amount of cement clinker produced. I am sure you will agree with me that this reflects the greatest credit on the Works Manager and his staff. It was only unfortunate that sales could not keep pace with output, so that at the end of the year we had unusually high stocks of cement and clinker on hand, and a correspondingly low cash balance in the bank. One of our tasks in the current year is to reduce these stocks as far as possible, and I am glad to say that up to the time of writing we have made some progress in this direction, resulting in a material improvement in our cash position."

"The net profit for the year at \$2,780,915.25 shows, I regret to say, an unpleasantly large reduction, and allows us to recommend a dividend of only \$3 per share as compared with \$4 last year, and a reduced bonus to staff."

"There is not much else to comment on in the accounts. Additions to fixed assets represented principally the final expenditure on the reconstruction of our No. 1 kiln and the purchase of a new and more powerful diesel motor, which has helped us considerably on the shipping side of our activities; we have already referred to the reasons for the high figure represented under current assets by stocks."

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CLAIM AGAINST SHIP WINS

An ex-parte claim against the ss Rosita for \$5,499.03

being balance of cost of repairs and materials supplied to the ship was brought before Mr Justice C. W. Reece, Senior Puisne Judge, in the Admiralty Court this morning.

Judgment with costs for the amount claimed was awarded to the plaintiffs, Kingley Engineering Shipyard Co., Ltd of 35 Jervois Street, Mr Victor Gillins, instructed by Brutton and Co. appeared for the plaintiffs.

Counsel told the Court that no appearance or intervention was filed and leave was granted by the Court to proceed ex-parte.

He said that this was a straightforward claim for repairs and materials supplied to the ship.

Inspection Mrs Wong Fok Shu-look in evidence said she is the managing director of the plaintiff company. Between May and August last year a Mr Chan Yau-leung and a Mr Chan Yau-leung known to her as managers of the Carling Shipping Co., Ltd, the owners of the ss Rosita called at her office and as a result of the visit, the plaintiff company engaged Mr Chan Yau-leung to inspect the ship to ascertain what repairs were necessary.

The ship's owners, she said, accepted the engineer's recommendation for repairs which were subsequently carried out by plaintiff company.

The sum claimed represented balance of cost of repairs and materials supplied, witness added.

BIG GAME HUNTING ON TV

Dr Lee Shu-an the big game hunter who recently returned to the Colony from safari in Africa will be the guest on "Chinese Calling Card" at 8.45 tonight in the Rediffusion Television Service.

During the interview Dr Lee will show slides of his various activities in Africa and will explain something of the difficulties of calling out a big game hunter.

The programme will be in Cantonese.

JAL To Cut Pacific Flight Time

Japan Air Lines will inaugurate a fast Trans-Pacific service on April 1 with the latest DC 7C "Super Courier" planes flying between Tokyo and San Francisco via Honolulu, four days a week.

Together with continuation of the present DC 6-B Pacific Courier service three days a week, a daily flight schedule between Japan and the West Coast will be maintained.

The new planes will cut six hours 10 minutes off current San Francisco-Tokyo flight time and five hours off Tokyo-San Francisco run making it possible to have dinner in Tokyo on Sunday night and early breakfast in San Francisco on Monday morning.

Simultaneous schedules will be increased on the Tokyo-South routes so that Hongkong will have four flights a week Pacific Courier service with Tokyo and three flights a week service with Bangkok.

Two riflemen of the 1/3 Gurkha Rifles were injured yesterday when their military vehicle went off the Castle Peak Road, near the four-milestone. The two soldiers, who were based at Tam Mei Camp, were admitted to General Hospital. Their injuries are not serious.

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UK CONSUL TO TAIWAN ARRIVING

Mr Allan Veitch, newly appointed UK Consul to Taiwan and Mrs Veitch, will arrive in the Colony tomorrow morning on the Blue Funnel Line ship Fatouros en route from London to Taipei to take up his new post.

Mr Veitch is well-known for his long experience with the UK Consular service in China where he served in Chungking, Nanking and Shanghai for many years. Mr and Mrs Veitch will be remaining in the Colony for a few days before embarking for Taiwan.

WOMAN KILLED

A Chinese woman was killed when she was knocked down by a private car in Clear Water Bay Road, near Wong Tai Sin Road, shortly after 4 p.m. yesterday. The victim, who has not yet been identified, died a few hours after she was admitted to Kowloon Hospital.

A twelve-year-old girl, Lee Kit-ling, of No. 616, Shanghai Street, second floor, was injured by a private car near her home last night.

A boy of seven, Chan Hoi-shan, living at No. 6, Sutherland Street, first floor, was knocked down and injured by a private car in Queen's Road, West, yesterday.

Pocket Picked In Court Says Woman

A Chinese woman who was watching proceedings in No. 1 Court at the Kowloon Magistracy complained this morning that she had had her pocket picked of \$4.

Police officers searched all persons leaving the Court. No one was arrested.

The woman was later accompanied to the Yaumali Police station where she made her report.

RADIO STOLEN A portable radio was stolen from a private car parked in Old Bailey Street last night.

WOMEN STORM GAOL

Belfast, Mar. 17. Fifty women, wives and mothers of Irish Republican Army internees, stormed their way into Belfast gaol today in a St Patrick's Day demonstration.

Their menfolk are among about 170 held in the prison under Northern Ireland emergency legislation permitting arrest and detention without trial.

The women, forbidden to see the internees since the discovery of an escape tunnel in the gaol last week, gathered outside the prison to shout protests.

Then the gates swung open to admit the prison Deputy Governor and the crowd stormed into the courtyard.

Prison staff swiftly closed the gates and the women could be heard shouting and demonstrating inside the gaol.

There were shouts of "Down with British Tyranny" and "Up the Irish Republican Army."

The IRA, outlawed in both the North and the Southern Irish Republic, is trying to force the unification of Ireland by force.

A large crowd gathered outside the gaol and eventually a small riot was opened and the feminine "invasion" force was ejected one by one.—Reuter.

Death Of Old Resident Mrs Laura A. Marques Basto, an old resident of the Colony, died at her home at No. 3, Liberty Avenue, first floor, this morning. She was 83.

Born in Japan, Mrs Marques Basto came to Hongkong some 30 years ago.

Death Of Old Resident

Mrs Laura A. Marques Basto, an old resident of the Colony, died at her home at No. 3, Liberty Avenue, first floor, this morning. She was 83.

Born in Japan, Mrs Marques Basto came to Hongkong some 30 years ago.

She is survived by her sister, Mrs E. Figueiredo, and many nephews and nieces in various parts of the world.

The funeral will take place today, the corpse passing the monument at 3.30 p.m.

Police officers searched all persons leaving the Court. No one was arrested.

The woman was later accompanied to the Yaumali Police station where she made her report.

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